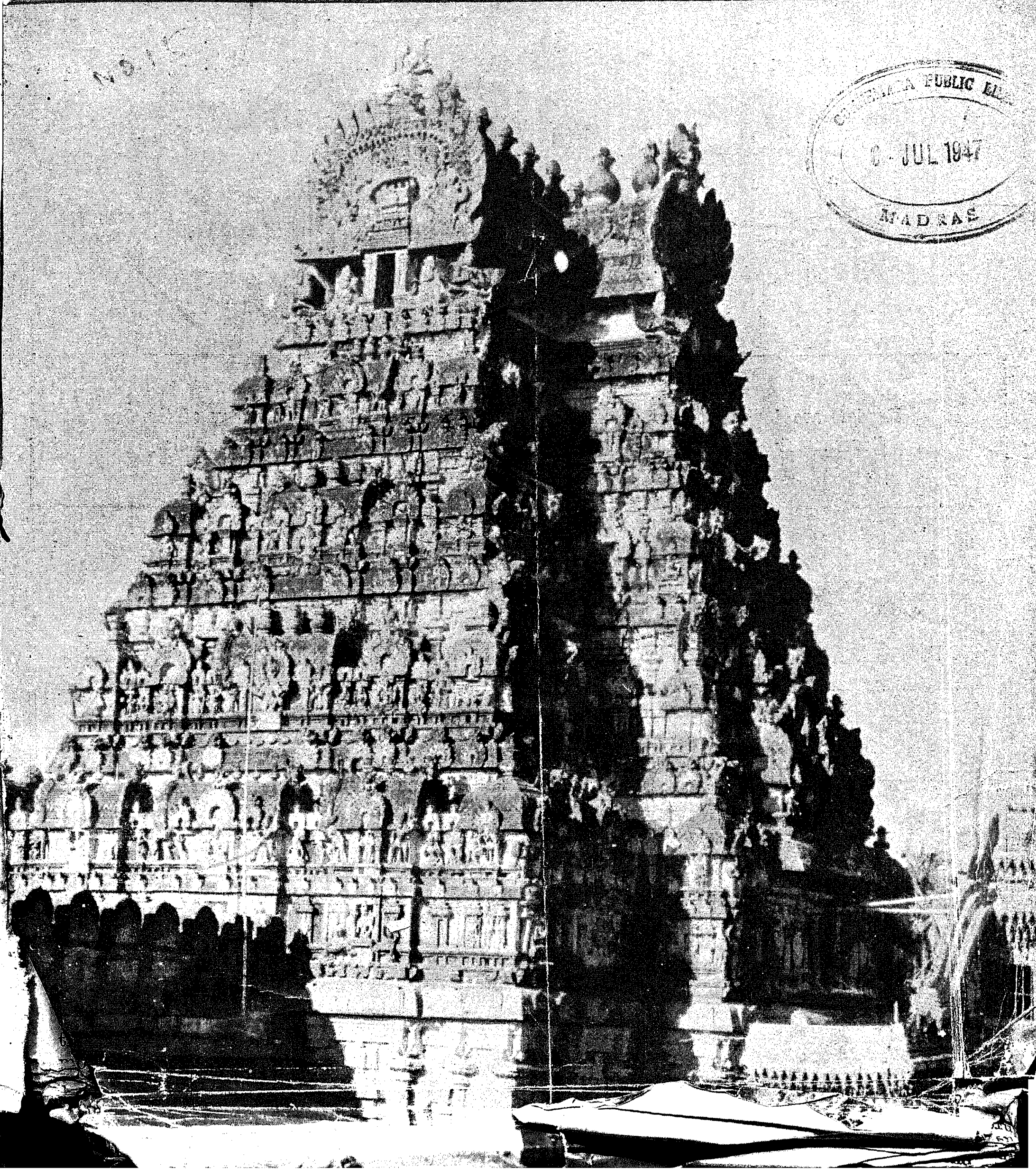
MADRAS INFORMATION



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MADRAS

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Readers are invited to send questions seeking clarification of the policy of the Government or allied matters. Answers will be published as soon as possible.

The object of *Madras Information* is to give a brief record of the Madras Government's activities and to educate the public opinion on the Government's policies.

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Madras Information

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Editorial Notes

Procurement in Madras

Producers should sell their stocks

PROCUREMENT of foodgrains in the Province continues to be a source of anxious concern in view of the rapid approach of the lean season and of the necessity to replenish and build up stocks before the existing stocks are completely depleted. On steadily increasing procurement within the province alone is dependent the maintenance intact of the rationing system at the present level of 10 oz. rice ration per adult. The position has to be considered in the light of the unforgettable consideration that the prospects of outside assistance in the shape of imports of foodgrains of any category are extremely negligible, as the figures for the last fortnight of May indicate. During that period only 2,838 tons of rice were received from other provinces and 8,500 tons from overseas, which included 3,500 tons of rice in replacement of supplies to be made to the Defence Services. So far as internal procurement is concerned the total quantity procured during the fortnight ending 31st May was 70,554 tons of rice as against 58,498 tons during the previous fortnight. Rice procurement is undoubtedly steadily going up but the millets' position remains more or less stationary, the implication being that those who are accustomed to consuming millets will also have to be given a rice ration, which means increased pressure on the already depleted rice stocks.

Local Self-sufficient

INDIVIDUAL districts are showing improvement in their procurement figures and the Northern Circar districts are pulling their weight in a steadier manner than so[illegible]me back, facilitating a more satisfactory mo[illegible]of stocks from them to the deficit dist[illegible]ts. [illegible] equally steady improvement [illegible]rement of foodgrains throughout the [illegible] so that local self-sufficiency [illegible] as far as [illegible] be ensured and there will be correspondingly [illegible] on the stocks in other districts. It must [illegible]ly remembered that it is only if the over-all stock position in the province remains satisfactory that the movement of supplies to deficit districts can be maintained in the coming difficult months. As on May 29th, the stock of rice in the province was 240,289 tons as against 242,348 tons on May 15th. The meaning of these figures is plain enough and their implications must be regarded as discouraging in the context of the fact that the position with regard to millets is only still more unsatisfactory and discouraging.

FOR the whole province the targets for procurement of rice and millets respectively for the present *kharif* year, that is, for the period between 1–11–1946 and 31–10–1937, were fixed at 1,787,600 tons and 184,670 tons. Up to the end of May, the total procurement amounted, however, to only 917,386 tons and 47,338 tons respectively of rice and millets. Considering that the next few months are usually months of gradually declining incoming of stocks and that the normal peak period of deliveries is passing off, the over-all position, as it exists at present, cannot provide room for complacency but on the other hand affords ample reason for concern as mentioned in the beginning. Greater and more intensive efforts on the part of the authorities are indeed imperatively essential. But the situation demands even greater willingness and readiness on the part of the producers to sell their stocks, as only such willingness can give purpose and meaning to official efforts and can retrieve the progressively uneven balance between stocks and requi[illegible]. The Board of Revenue conclude their r[illegible] procurement for the period ending 15th [illegible] the statement that "all Collectors are info[illegible] the present position is causing anxiety [illegible] import assistance can be [illegible] in the near fu[illegible] that they should [illegible] concentrated att[illegible] [illegible] to maintain the present [illegible]

Need of the Hour

IT is, therefore, of primary importance that the district authorities everywhere must be up and doing; but as has already been stated, it is equally or much more important that the cultivators, particularly the bigger ones, should rise to the occasion too and fulfil their part so that the province as a whole, and particularly the chronically deficit districts like Malabar, may be rescued from the effects of shortage in the difficult months ahead.

OUR exhortation to all producers will, therefore, be:

RELEASE YOUR SURPLUS STOCKS OF FOOD-GRAINS AND SAVE THE PROVINCE FROM FOOD SHORTAGE; IN THE WELL-BEING OF THE PROVINCE AS A WHOLE CONSISTS THE WELL-BEING OF EVERYONE ALSO.

TO SELL STOCKS IN TIME WILL BE TO SELL THEM FOR A GOOD PURPOSE, FOR IN THE HAPPINESS OF THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE LIES THE HAPPINESS OF EACH OF ITS INDIVIDUAL UNITS.

IF a food shortage threatens the province or some important parts of it and the scale of ration has to be reduced, not only the non-producers, who are of course in an overwhelming majority, but even the producers too will be overwhelmed by the calamitous consequences of such shortage.

Reform of Village Panchayats

SOME of the fundamental principles on which the Government are contemplating a reorganization of the village panchayat system in Madras were enunciated by the Minister for Local Administration at a press conference recently. Village autonomy is an ideal which is very dear to the Indian people, in whose long-history the village constituted the pivot of the administrative, economic, and social organization. In recent decades, village life in many parts of the country has been undergoing a process of progressive disintegration and disruption owing to the invasion of various extraneous forces and foreign ideas into our body-politic and the importance of the village as the centre and pivot of our national life has been on the decline Factionalism instead of co-operation, poverty and ill-health instead of economic self-sufficiency and healthy existence, social disintegration rather than integrated social life have come to dominate the villages, bringing in their train economic impoverishment, social and communal disharmony, ill-health and disease, mental inertia and ignorance. To restore to the villages what they had lost, to impart to them the purposeful dynamism which once was the distinguishing characteristic of their communal life, is an ideal worthy of pursuit.

Main features

THE scheme, the outlines of which were unfolded by the Hon'ble Mr. Chandramouli, seeks to attain these objectives and transform the villages once again into centres radiating robust ideas of organized democratic life and co-operative living to attain a richer and self-contained village life. The central idea of the scheme is that every village, big or small, should have a Panchayat Board, the members of which will be elected by the entire adult population of the village and with a president also directly elected by the people themselves. The Panchayat will have [illegible] branches of village administration, [illegible]f course, to the control and supervision of the [illegible]l administration. To enable the Panchayat [illegible]rge its obligations efficiently and without the [illegible] implicit in inadequate resources, [illegible] to the [illegible]venue like the land cess [illegible]ses collected from the village. It is also proposed that the Panchayat President and members, once elected should be irremovable for the entire term fixed for them by statute. The Panchayat will function through a number of sub-committees appointed by it to look after different objectives like Sanitation and Public Health, village public works, collection of revenue, procurement and sale of commodities essential for the village and criminal and civil justice, but elementary education will be a State concern and out of the purview of the Panchayat.

Internal Autonomy and External Control

THE scheme is clearly an attempt to reconcile the internal autonomy of the village with efficient and effective control from above to ensure its successful operation. There is, however, no inherent conflict between internal village autonomy and Provincial Government control, once it is granted that they can co-exist without the former being impinged upon unnecessarily and so long as the latter in its punitive form is exercised only in extreme cases to prevent maladministration and inefficiency. Nor need there be apprehension that the Provincial powers of control will be abused in view of the fact that the Provincial Government will itself be a democratic one and will be responsible to the Legislature. And lastly, lest it should be said that there is a wide administrative gap between the Village Panchayat and the Provincial Government, which may prevent effective linking up of the two agencies, the Hon'ble Minister mentioned that there was a proposal to constitute Taluk and District Advisory Councils, which will act as co-ordinating, though purely advisory, bodies.

AN integrated village life, co-operation and unity among the villagers for achieving common objectives, avoidance of factionism in the villages, training of the villagers in the democratic principles of administration, are the objectives which the sche[illegible] achieving. The complaint has been ve[illegible] often that the real handi[illegible] to effective Panchayat adm[illegible]stration is lack of financial resources and the sche[illegible] seeks to eliminate that complaint by vesting in the Panchayats the right to collect other local cesses and to spend the proceeds as it considers best for the benefit of the village.

Madras Government Press Notes

Food and Clothing

Issue of Bread to Sick People

It has been represented to the Government that the present practice, viz., of sick people who want bread having to approach the Rationing Officer with a medical certificate who will then authorize the retailers to issue bread tickets on their ration cards, causes hardship to cardholders and even results in delays at times. It is therefore ordered that retail dealers may be directed to issue bread tickets to sick people who produce Medical Certificates by retaining the medical certificates with them. The Checking staff who periodically inspect the ration shops should check the medical certificates and issues made thereon.

The Rationing Officers may, however, continue to authorize the issue of bread to sick people who do not produce medical certificates and to habitual bread eaters.

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Ration to Industrial Canteens

In view of the difficult food position in this province and uncertainty of imports from overseas, the Government have decided to reduce the scale of ration to industrial canteens from 6 oz. to 4 oz. The composition of the ration shall be as follows :—

Canteens opened before 1st May 1946.	½ lb. of bread or 2 oz. of rice plus 2 oz. of maize or maize flour or wheat or wheat flour (maida) or barley.
Canteens opened after 1st May 1946 or to be opened in future.	½ lb. of bread or 4 oz. of maize or maize flour or wheat or wheat flour (maida) or barley.

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Issue of Wheat further restricted

[illegible] to the low stock of wheat and [illegible]at products and as there a[illegible] no [illegible]spects of imports in the near future [illegible] issue of wheat and its products has [illegible] futher restricted. The composi[illegible] the quotas to the following establishments should be as shown below :—

Non-meals hotels—

Broken rice, if available, 25 per cent of the quota, one-fourth.

Maize and/or maize flour, 42⅚ per cent of the quota, five-twelfth.

Barley flour, 25 per cent of the quota, one-fourth.

Wheat and wheat products (excluding maida), 8⅓ per cent of the quota, one-twelfth.

If the existing stocks of wheat in any area cannot be spread over for three months with reference to the above scale, the Rationing Officers and Collector may still further reduce the quantity of wheat giving broken rice in lieu of wheat.

The issue of 25 per cent of the quota in maize and 10 per cent in the shape of barley flour is compulsory (compulsory in the sense that if maize and barley flour are not taken, other cereals should not be issued).

Biscuit manufacturers and confectioneries—

Wheat flour (maida), one-sixth of the quota.

Maize and/or barley flour, five-sixth of the quota.

The quota referred to above is 50 per cent of the quota allowed to these establishments prior to the date when maida was subsidized. The taking of maize and barley is not compulsory; but no wheat or maida should be issued in lieu of these cereals. If the existing stock position of maida after meeting the demand for bread is not sufficient to meet the demand with reference to the above scale, the Collectors and Rationing Officers may reduce it still further.

All Rationing Officers and Collectors are informed that on no account should the quota allowed to the biscuit manufacturers and confectioneries be increased nor should the composition fixed above, dated 23rd May 1947 be altered.

The above orders apply to both rural and statutorily rationed areas in the Province.

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Nutrition Canteens Closed

In view of the unsatisfactory food situation the Government have considered the question of the continuance of the Nutrition Canteens run by the Y.M.C.A. in Madras City. These canteens supply food to all who pay and occasions must be frequent of persons resorting to these canteens who otherwise are also entitled to the regular food ration. Thus the canteens are an inducement to people to draw double rations, and in the face of a serious food situation, the possibilities for drawing double rations in this way have to be rigorously eliminated. The Government have therefore ordered that the Y.M.C.A. canteens at Loane Square, Salt Cotaurs, and the Corporation Fruit Market be closed with effect from 1st June 1947.

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Unoccupied Lands: Concessions extended

In view of the present food situation in the province, the Government have extended the period for which the existing concessions in respect of unoccupied lands, including lands reserved for public purposes under the Grow More Food Campaign will apply till the end of Fasli 1357. The concessions extended relate to cultivation of compounds of institutions, cultivation of backyards, cultivation of vacant village or town sites, cultivation of lands near the sea front, cultivation of tank-bed lands, exemption from water cess and assessment for the cultivation of sweet potatoes, waiver of penalties for technical infringements of irrigation rules, concessional water-rate except in regard to lands under the Kattalai High level channel in the Trichinopoly district, non-destruction of forfeited crops on encorachments, concession for special areas, like the Cauvery-Mettur Project area in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts, land in compact blocks, wet cultivation of dry and Manavari land in Tanjore district, expansion of double crop, grant of lands outside estates for food cultivation, wet cultivation under the Rayapuram tank in Kudligi taluk, Bellary district, cultivation of blackgram on wet lands in Cuddapah district, lands newly cultivated wet under the channel excavated from the right bank of Pennar in Gangavaram and Vira[illegible]ram villages, assignment of lan[illegible] for Malayalis in Salem dist[illegible] vation of Ponam paddy and [illegible] crops in Mal[illegible] district [illegible] cultivation in South Kanara[illegible]

Permits for Milling

Representations have been received by the Government that in the case of non-statutorily rationed areas the present arrangement requiring the producers to obtain permits for milling of paddy from Taluk Supply Officers causes them much inconvenience. It has been suggested that the Presidents of Village Committees may be authorised to issue such permits. The Government presume that these complaints are due to the impression that landholders have to obtain a permit from the Taluk Supply Officer every time they want to mill paddy for personal consumption. The Government wish to make it clear that it 's not necessary that producers should ›btain a permit every time they esire to mill a portion of the stock rith them. Under the existing insructions a standing permit valid or one year will be issued by the aluk Supply Officer or Tahsildar to the roducers for milling the quantity to iich the producer will be eligible for rsonal consumption for a year. The rot should take the permit to the mills whenever paddy is to be milled and the miller should note on the permit the quantity milled on each occasion. As the permit is to be obtained only once in a year the existing arrangements should cause no difficulties to the producers. The Government do not therefore consider it necessary to change those arrangements.

As regards the statutorily rationed areas similar instructions are being issued to the Rationing Officers concerned. According to these instructions, the landholder should take to the mill every time he wants to hull paddy the permit issued to him by the Tahsildar or the Rationing Officer under which he imported or retained the produce of his lands and the miller should note on the permit the quantity hulled on each occasion.

The Government have recently issued orders specifying the authority on production of which various classes of people can hull their paddy in statutorily and non-statutorily rationed areas. Details are reported below for the information of the public.

STATUTORY AREAS.

Class of persons.	*Nature of permit.*
Landholders who are ration cardholders.	Permit issued by the Tahsildar or the Rationing Officer under which they import or retain the produce of their lands.
Other cardholders who are given paddy ration.	Ration cards possessed by them.
Authorized wholesalers selected for distribution of rice for rationed areas, for rural areas and for deficit areas.	Authorization issued by the Rationing Officer under clause 3 of the Madras Rationing Order, 1945 and the licence issued by the Commercial Tax Officer under the Foodgrains Control Order.
›ther classes of persons	Special permits issued by the Rationing Officer or Grain Purchase Officer for the purpose of hulling paddy.

NON-STATUTORY AREAS.

›ducers or receivers of ›ent in nd who are not ration cardlders.	Permits issued by Tahsildars (including Deputy Tahsildars) or Taluk Supply Officers.
ion cardholders	Ration cards possessed by them.
horized wholesalers selected for e distribution of rice in rural areas.	Authorization issued by the Tahsildars (including Deputy Tahsildars) or Taluk Supply Officers and licences issued by the Commercial Tax Officers under the Madras Foodgrains Control Order No. 11 of 1945.
4. Other classes of persons	Special permits issued by Tahsildars (including Deputy Tahsildars) or Taluk Supply Officers.

Price of Sugar

The Government have notified that District Collectors shall have power to fix the prices of bura and sugar candy within respective jurisdiction subject to the limits specified below :—

B[illegible]

[illegible]lesale price per imperial [illegible]und—

		RS.	A.	P.
[illegible]nimum	..	24	0	0
[illegible]ximum	..	29	0	0

Retail price per viss—

		RS.	A.	P.
Minimum	..	0	15	0
Maximum	..	1	2	0

Sugarcandy—

Wholesale price per imperial maund—

		RS.	A.	P.
Minimum	..	28	0	0
Maximum	..	32	0	0

Retail price per viss—

		RS.	A.	P
Minimum	..	1	0	0
Maximum	..	1	4	0

No wholesale or retail dealer in bura or sugarcandy shall sell bura or sugarcandy at a price exceeding that notified by the District Collector from time to time. Every dealer shall exhibit prominently in his place of business a board showing the stock of bura or sugarcandy held by him and the price fixed thereof by the District Collector from time to time.

If any person contravenes any of the provisions of this order, then, without prejudice to any other punishment to which he may be liable, any court trying such contravention shall direct that any stocks of bura or sugarcandy together with the containers and coverings thereof in respect of which the court is satisfied that any such provision has been contravened, shall be forfeited to the Government unless, for special reasons to be recorded in writing, the court is of the opinion that such direction should not be made in respect of the whole or any part of such stocks.

Against Smuggling of Pulses

The Government have issued an order to prevent smuggling of pulses like blackgram, redgram, greengram, bengalgram, horsegram, or their products from Tinnevelly district to Travancore State. The order takes effect from the date of its publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette.* Transport of pulses like blackgram, redgram, greengram, bengalgram, horsegram or their products exceeding in quantity half an imperial maund from and through any of the villages of Tinnevelly district mentioned in the schedule, except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the permit issued by the Collector of Tinnevelly district or any person authorized by him on this behalf. The order does not however prohibit the transport of pulses within the limits of any such village. If any person contravenes the provisions of this order, then, without prejudice to any other punishment to which he may be liable, any court trying such contravention shall direct that any stock of pulses referred t[illegible] that clause together with the pack[illegible] and coverings thereof in respect [illegible] which the court is satisfied [illegible] provisions *of the* [illegible] *contravened shall* [illegible] the Government.

Revenue

Stamp Revenue

Statistics of Stamp Revenue during 1945–46 show that the total receipts on account of stamps were Rs. 3,77,28,225 as against Rs. 3,41,07,115 during 1944–45. There is thus an increase of Rs. 36,21,110 or 10 per cent. Under Judicial stamps, the total receipts for 1945–46 were Rs. 1,10,27,259 as against Rs. 1,02,72,533 during 1944–45. The increase works out at 7 per cent and this is attributed to the increase in the number of suits filed in Civil Courts. The total receipts under non-judicial stamps were Rs. 2,67,00,966 as against Rs. 2,38,34,582 during 1944–45. The increase in this case is 12 per cent which is due to high prices on the sale of immovable properties. As regards Revenue adhesive stamps, a sum of Rs. 13,10,934 was realized during the year as against Rs. 12,03,541 during 1944–45. The increase works out at 8 per cent and it is due to the increase in cash transactions for trade purposes.

Commercial tax assessment

Government have reviewed the Administration Report of the Commercial Taxes Department for 1945-46. The compilation of this report was held in abeyance from 1942-43 on account of the War and was revived only during the year under report. The total demand of the Madras General Sales Tax including arrears for 1944-45 was Rs. 6,50,04,472 of which a sum of Rs. 5,93,02,025 was collected leaving a balance of Rs. 57,02,447. The balance represents 8·77 per cent of the total demand as against 0·8 in 1942-43. The penal provisions of the Act were invoked in 2,336 cases. Arrears were collected by the Revenue Department under section 10 of the Act in 384 cases. In one case collection was made through a Civil Court. There was, generally, no difficulty in the matter of collection. The experience gained during the past six years both by the officers of the Commercial Tax Department and the merchant-public contributed to the smooth working of the Act. A Special Officer was appointed during the year to investigate the [illegible] under the Act. He was [illegible]sible for detecting many evasions [illegible] prompt action was taken to see [illegible]at such evasions did not occur. Evasions were noticeable mostly on the [illegible] of commission agents licensed under section 8 of the Act and they were assessed for breach of the conditions of the licence.

Development

Imported Paper and Paper Quota

It has been noticed that certain publishers, printers and manufacturers of exercise books and other articles of stationery are using imported paper in addition to the quota of paper to which they are entitled under the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1945. It is announced for general information that imported paper is intended to supplement the supplies of indigenous paper available for consumption by all types of consumers and is as much subject to the economy restrictions on consumption as indigenous paper. The use of imported paper outside the quota permissible under the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1945, will therefore, be in contravention of the provisions of the order.

Newsprint for Journals

Publishers of periodicals using newsprint are informed that under clause 3 (*a*) of the Newsprint Control Order, 1947, they are prohibited from using paper other than newsprint in conjunction with newsprint, without the written permission of the Government of India to do so. Publishers who have not obtained such permission should stop using papers other than newsprint for wrappers or other purposes. The fact that the papers are supplied out of the printers' quota will not absolve them of their responsibility to abide by the provisions of the Newsprint Control Order.

Use of Newsprint

The attention of the public is invited to the Press Note, dated 8th March 1947 of this Government explaining the relaxations and concessions granted by the Government of India in respect of the use of newsprint for the publication of a newspaper or journal. As certain doubts have been expressed about the interpretation of the Government of India's Press Note, in regard to the use of white printing paper in the publication of journals after 31st March 1947, the Government of India have issued the following instructions :—

The journals which were in regular publication during the period immediately prece[illegible] November 1942 and were being printed on paper other than newsprint, as also journals which have specially been allowed since that date to start publication on white printing paper, may continue to be published on that variety of paper after 31st March 1947. There are, however, some journals which have been in receipt of a newsprint quota, but which, on account of lack of newsprint supplies in the market, were permitted by the Controller of Newsprint to use white printing paper temporarily for a short while until newsprint became available again. Such journals are not allowed to use other kinds of paper any longer and they must confine their publication to newsprint only.

Newspaper report corrected

The 'Indian Express' in its issue, dated 29th May 1947 published a news item under the caption 'Improved Irrigation Facilities,' in which the cost of the Ramapadasagar Irrigation Project was given as Rs. 60 crores and that of the Tungabhadra as Rs. 10 crores. The latter project was reported to be capable of irrigating about 2·3 million acres.

The Ramapadasagar project is estimated to cost Rs. 86 crores and not Rs. 60 crores while the Tungabhadra project is estimated to be capable of irrigating 2·94 lakhs of acres and not 2·3 million acres.

Applications for Iron and Steel

The Government of Madras have appointed the Director of Industries and Commerce as the Provincial Co-ordinating Authority for Sundry Projects and the Chief Engineer (General, Buildings and Defence) as the Provincial Co-ordinating Authority in respect of the maintenance requirements of the Public Works Department, Municipalities, etc., for the purpose of determining priorities of applications for iron and steel for Government development projects. This has been done in pursuance of the Government of India's suggestion that if the Provincial Government's projects are to be programmed in accordance with the importance attached to them in the matter of supply of iron and steel, [illegible] should be a Provincial Co-ordinat[illegible] [illegible] projects for [illegible] and forwarding the app[illegible] the Iron and Steel Cont[illegible] have also stated [illegible]

Department, Municipalities, etc., which have to be met from the quota for "Industrialmaintenance and packing" should also be similarly co-ordinated. The following instructions are issued n this connexion :—

Applications for iron and steel should be made in triplicate to the Director of Industries and Commerce if they relate to Sundry Projects and to the Chief Engineer (General, Buildings and Defence) in respect of the normal maintenance requirements of the Public Works Department and Municipalities, etc., and for projects of an industrial nature such as any electrical installations, Government Workshops, Municipal Workshops, Gas Works, Water-works, etc. Applications for the normal maintenance quirements of the buildings and roads which are met by Provincial allotment hall be made to the Chief Engineer General, Buildings and Defence). The rovincial Co-ordinating Authority tall consolidate and scrutinize all the pplications received by them and range them in order of urgency. hey should also fix the priority in ach case and submit the applications triplicate so as to reach the Government not later than the 10th of each ionth.

In fixing priority the following produre shall be adopted, namely, applitions from Government Departments ould receive first preference, secondly iose of Municipalities and Local oards and lastly those of others not lling under the above categories.

Mr. H. Sitarama Reddi, Minister for [illegible]stries, Government of Madras, been nominated by the Governorral in Council as a member of the ning body and the Council of tific and Industrial Research.

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Occupants of Tungabhadra Project lands

Consequent upon the Tungabhadra project lands have to be acquired for the submergible area and this would necessitate the occupants of these lands changing their residences or places of business. Government have considered the case of these people and have decided to award compensation [illegible]em. Each family will be [illegible]nal railway fare or bus fare [illegible]e at the rate of one anna [illegible] the distance to be covered [illegible]dition to the cost of [illegible] personal effects. Full costs will be paid for the removal of heavy plants, such as groundnut factory or rice mill, and their installation in the new place. The cost of any structural alterations necessary for the new building in which the machinery is to be installed will also be borne by the Government. The compensation will be paid before the villagers are evacuated. The question of acquisition of houses will be taken up later.

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Industrial Tribunals

The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, came into force on 1st April 1947. Under section 10 (1) (c) of the Act, industrial disputes can be referred only to Industrial Tribunals for adjudication. Section 7 of the Act lays down that the appropriate Government may constitute one or more Industrial Tribunals for adjudication of industrial disputes. The Provincial Government have now constituted four Industrial Tribunals, one at Madras for the adjudication of industrial disputes in the districts of Madras, Chingleput, South Arcot and North Arcot, another at Coimbatore for adjudication of the industrial disputes in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, Malabar, South Kanara and the Nilgiris, a third at Madura for the adjudication of industrial disputes in the districts of Madura, Tinnevelly, Ramnad, Trichinopoly and Tanjore, and a fourth at Bezwada for the adjudication of the industrial disputes in the districts of Vizagapatam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Anantapur, Kurnool and Bellary. The personnel of these tribunals will be Sri Rao Bahadur M. Venkataramayya at Madras, Sri P. Markandeyulu at Bezwada, Sri C. R. Krishna Rao at Coimbatore and Sri Rao Bahadur T. A. Subbiah Pillai at Madura.

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Cotton Seeds

With a view to relieving the scarcity of cotton seeds in the Madras Province, the Government have accepted the suggestions of the Board of Revenue for the purpose subject to some conditions. The Board of Revenue suggested that an advance of five lakhs of rupees shall be placed in the personal deposit account of the Commissioner [illegible] chase of 2,000 tons of cotton seeds from Hyderabad and that the cottonseeds so purchased may be distributed to the Collectors of the districts which are deficit in cotton seeds for being sold to local dealers, preferably co-operative societies, at cost price under the general directions of the Collectors and that in the event of local dealers being unwilling to pay the full price, sale below cost price will have to be considered and subsidy not exceeding Re. 1 per maund be paid.

In accepting these suggestions the Government have prescribed that with a view to minimise any loss to Government necessary precautions should be taken for the testing of seeds, for providing a storage and for arranging quick movement of wagons. The Civil Supplies Assistant Marketing Officer in Hyderabad (Division) should be authorized to purchase cotton seeds only at prices not exceeding Rs. 10 per maund. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies has also been asked to maintain separate detailed accounts for the transactions relating to this order as in the case of other State Trading Schemes.

Miscellaneous

Grant of Remissions

The Government have sanctioned as a special case the grant of dry remissions at the rates mentioned below for fasli 1356 in 40 villages in Uravakonda sub-taluk, Anantapur district, where owing to disease, the white cholam crop has failed as—

(i) in villages where the cholam crop did not give any yield, the remission is 100 per cent ;

(ii) in villages with an average crop outturn of two annas and less, it will be 75 per cent ; and

(iii) in villages with an average crop outturn of four annas and below but above two annas, the remission is 50 per cent.

The concessions on the scales mentioned apply also to the following categories of land provided the major portion of the field or the subdivision was cultivated with white cholam during fasli 1356 :—

(1) Ryotwari occupied dry ; (2) Government lands cultivated without permission, provided the occupation is unobjectionable ; (3) minor inams charged with fuel assessment or with quit-rent equal to [illegible] assessment ; (4) lands assigned [illegible]rarily ; and (5) minor inam dr[illegible] which pay favourable rates of qui[illegible] rent in respect of so much of quit-ren[illegible] as is in excess of the assessme[illegible] [illegible]he

actually paid on similar ryotwari lands after allowing the concession.

* * * *

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 10,000 for the relief of distress caused by the fire accident on 15th May 1947 in Parvathipuram town, Parvathipuram taluk, Vizagapatam district.

* * * *

Mr. L. N. Rao of the Servants of India Society has been appointed as an additional member of the Aboriginal Tribes Welfare Enquiry Committee.

Cost of Living Index

During the week ended 31st May 1947 the index number of cost of living for working classes in Madras City remained stationary at 268.

The cost of living index number for working classes in Madras City for May 1947 was 269.

The index number for the food group fell by four points to 300 due to a fall in the prices of dhall, vegetables, salt and gingelly oil.

The index for the miscellaneous group rose by one point to 249 due to an increase in the price of betel nuts.

The group indices in respect of fuel and lighting, clothing and house rent remained stationary at 257, 304 and 154 respectively.

Elections Colours Assigned

In the press communiques, dated 21st October 1946 and 13th December 1946, the Government specified the colours which should be assigned to the official candidates of the various parties in the province at the ensuing elections to District Boards and Municipal Councils. In the press communiques, dated 13th December 1946 and 12th February 1947 the authorities from whom the candidates standing on behalf of the Congress Party should produce individual certificates as their credentials were specified. In consultation ... other par... their respective parties

Name of party.	*Document to be produced by official candidate.*
Muslim league..	Certificate signed by the Secretary, Madras Muslim League Provincial Parliamentary Board, No. 33, Errabalu Chetty Street, Georgetown, Madras.
Communist Party— (*a*) Malabar and South Kanara districts.	Certificate from the Secretary, Malabar District Committee of the Communist Party of India, Chalapuram, Calicut.
(*b*) Tamil districts.	Certificate signed by the Secretary, Tamil Nad Committee of the Communist Party of India, No. 1/6, Davidson Street, Georgetown, Madras, or by any one authorized on his behalf.
(*c*) Andhra districts.	Copy of the *Prajasakti* publishing the name of the candidate as the official candidate of the party.
Andhra Swarajya Party.	Certificate from the President, Andhra Swarajya Party, Goshti, Bezwada.
Nationalist Muslim Majlis.	Certificate from the President, Madras Provincial Nationalist Muslim Majlis, No. 4, Appu Mudali Street, Mylapore, Madras.
Hindu Mahasabha.	Certificate from Sri K. Sivanandi Thevar, General Secretary, Provincial Hindu Mahasabha, No. 7, Melapattamar Street, Madura, only in the case of candidates of Tamil

Developments on Food Front

The quantities of foodgrains imported into India from January 1 to May 24 are as follows :—

	TONS.
Wheat	281,600
Wheat flour	28,200
Rice	231,800
Maize	88,000
Millets	10,300
Barley	149,700
Milo	197,700
Oats	8,200

Relief granted

The Government have sanctioned an allotment of Rs. 10,000 from the grant of the Indian People's Famine Trust for providing further relief to persons affected by the floods of November 1946 in Annasagaram and other villages in Dharmapuri taluk, Salem district.

The Collector is requested to see that there is no delay in the distribution of the relief from the amount sanctioned. It may be mentioned in this connexion that the Government have already sanctioned Rs. 5,000 in November 1946, from Provincial funds for famine relief in Annasagaram village.

Rent Control Act

The Government have notified that the Madras Buildings Lease and Rent Control Act of 1946 shall apply to every area in the province of Madras for the time being within the limits of the non-municipal areas specified below :—

Chingleput.—1. Tambaram (East and West), 2. Irumbuliyur, 3. Solaiyur.

Chittoor.—1. Chandragiri, 2. Piler, 3. Kalikiri.

South Kanara.—1. Mulki, 2. Buntwal.

Malabar.—1. Parayancheri village, 2. Kottooli village, 3. Nedunjgottur, 4. Chirakkal amsom, 5. Kokkaniseri amsom, 6. Azhicode amsom, 7. Puzhathi amsom, 8. Cannanore Cantonment, 9. Kuthuparamba amsom, 10. Vemom amsom.

The Nilgiris.—1. Willington (Can-

18. Komarusariapalli, 19. Meliaputti, 20. Garlapadu, 21. Inapadu, 22. Idupuram, 23. Kavili, 24. Rajapuram, 25. Manikyapuram, 26. Chodavaram, Kobagam, 27. Lukulam, 28. Konda Kothapeta, 29. Amidalavalasa, 30. Gollalavalasa Santhalakshmipuram, 31. Jalumuru, 32. Kotabommali, 33. Korlakota Chinal valasa, 34. Palatalagam, 35. Purushottapuram, 36. Singupuram, 37. Salihundam, 38. Polaki, 39. Sanwada, 40. Thalla Samudram, 41. Vomaranalli, 42. Urlam, 43. Budathi, 44. Calingapatnam, 45. Jami, 46. Kottam.

Offence under Poison Rules

Prior to September 1943, Government prohibited under Petroleum Rules the filling of mixture of petrol and Tetra-Thul lead in unmarked receptacles. Similarly under the Poison Rules, cans and pumps containing petrol with an ad-mixture of Tetra-ehtyl lead were required to be labelled to indicate the presence of Tetra-tehyl lead in the petrol and warn the user to avoid spillage and not to use petrol except as motor-fuel. In September 1943 under the Defence of India Rules the Government of India relaxed the restrictions imposed under the Petroleum Rules. This relaxation was also done by the Provincial Governments in December 1943. As the exemption given by the Government of India under the Defence of India Rules lapsed in March 1947 the Provincial Government have now withdrawn the relaxation.

Statistical Abstract of Madras Province

The second issue of the Statistical Abstract for the Madras Province, compiled by the Statistical Branch of the Board of Revenue covers in the main the quinquennium from 1939–40 to 1943–44.

In this Province, there are Statistical Atlases, Gazetteers and the Administration Reports of Government Departments which contain statistics on various subjects. The Statistical Abstract brings in one volume all the essential and reliable statistical information which is necessary for planning, whether it is for administrators, industrialists or leaders in other departments [illegible] life. The present issue [illegible] 181 tables running to 275 [illegible] index. The [illegible] tables cover such [illegible] population, provincial [illegible] strength of public services, population of municipalities, births, mortality according to diseases, medical institutions and public health, education, newspapers and books, courts, police, prisons, prices of all important commodities, cost of living index number, joint stock companies, co-operative societies, insurance, agriculture, area and production of crops, rainfall, livestock, veterinary, irrigation, forest, mines and minerals, industries, electricity, labour, motor vehicles, road communications, shipping, posts and telegraphs, telephones and broadcasting.

It is hoped that the Abstract will prove useful to the general public who may at present not be fully aware of what statistics are available and from where they can be obtained.

The publication which is available for sale with the Superintendent, Government Press, has been priced at Rs. 8 only, so that it may be within the reach of as many people as possible.

Index Numbers of Import and Export Prices

Index numbers of Import and Export prices for the Province of Madras for April 1947, are as follows :—

(1) The index number of declared values of foreign imports declined by 23 points to 255.

(2) The index number of declared values of foreign exports advanced by 2 points to 277.

(3) The index number of declared values of coastwise imports advanced by 47 points to 348.

(4) The index number of declared values of coastwise exports advanced by 14 points to 342.

Lady Students in Medical Colleges

The Government have considered the proposals of the Surgeon-General regarding the cancellation or otherwise of the free concessions to women students in this Province admitted to the Government Medical Colleges. They have decided that the concession of exemption from the payment of entire tuition fees allowed to women students who belong to the Muslim community or the backward classes and Harijans and the six studentsship allowed for deserving poor candidates not belonging to the above community and classes be continued for a further period of two years and the [illegible] reviewed then with reference to the number of applications received for admission and the number admitted during the years 1947–48, 1948–49. They have directed that the half-fee concession now allowed to women students of this Province not belonging to the Muslim community or the backward-classes and Harijans be discontinued. Women students who have already been admitted to the Government Medical Colleges will, however, continue to be eligible for the concession.

Cost of Living Index

During the week ended 7th June 1947 the index number of cost of living for working classes in Madras City rose by one point to 269 owing mainly to a rise in the prices of vegetables.

Electricity Rationing

The Government understand that the recent appearance in the press of certain Electricity Restriction and Rationing Orders issued by the Government has created a certain amount of misunderstanding in the minds of the public that Government have imposed new restrictions in this field. The Government therefore wish to make it clear that these are not new orders, but mere reproductions of those originally issued under the Defence of India Rules, but reissued under the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946, for their continued operation after 24th March 1947 on which date the old orders lapsed. The restrictions and rationing of electricity continue to operate in the same form as previously.

In the case of Madras City, electricity consumers may note that there is now no enhancement of quota for the summer months since such enhancement has been allowed for the whole year and the limit of penalty free consumption of electricity for domestic purposes has been raised to 100 units per mensem.

Kodaikanal Bus Service

A number of representations having been received for and against the continuance of the monopoly of operating bus services on the Kodaikanal Grand Ghat Road enjoyed by the Kodaikanal Motor Union, the Government have examined the question and are convinced that it is neither [illegible] desirable to allow [illegible] tive motor vehicles on th[illegible] over the Government [illegible] qu[illegible] necessary to allow any othe[illegible] quit-re[illegible] run additional buses on th[illegible] assessme[illegible] he

Government have under consideration the nationalization of bus transport on this road as early as possible. They also understand that the number of buses now on the road are enough to meet the demand, particularly as the Kodaikanal season is now drawing to a close and as Government buses will be put on the road before the commencement of the next season. It was also represented to the Government that the classification of accommodation in the buses on this road as first and second-class accommodation is unsatisfactory, as poor people are not able to pay for the higher classes of accommodation and are therefore deprived of the opportunity of travel even though accommodation may be available. The Government have directed that in all buses other than those running as taxi or express buses, there should be no classification of seats. The Government have also directed that the same general principles as have been outlined in connection with the Kodaikanal Motor Union should be applied to the town bus service at Kodaikanal. If, however, it is found that the Kodaikanal Motor Union does not provide sufficient and satisfactory services other bus operators may be allowed a chance of providing necessary facilities to the public.

As regards the lorry service Government are satisfied that the lorries run by the Kodaikanal Motor Union together with the two lorries belonging to the Sundram Transport, Limited, and two other lorries belonging to Sri Jagannatha Chettiyar and to another, for which permits have recently been issued, are enough and there is no need for any other additional lorries on this road. The Government have also directed that the two lorries belonging to the Sundram Transport, Limited, be restricted each to one trip up or one trip down a day, though the company may run either two lorries each doing one trip, or if they find it more economical and convenient to do so, they can run one lorry doing a round trip up and down a day. There is no restriction as regards pleasure cars run as taxis.

Administration Report of the Registration Department

The administration report of the Registration Department for the triennium ended 1946 gives interesting facts and figures.

The number of district charges increased during the triennium from 23 to 29 consequent on the formation of six new registration districts, viz., Anantapur, Cuddapah, Kistna, Negapatam, Erode and Palghat. The number of sub-registry offices decreased from 566 during the previous triennium to 560, but the strength of permanent sub-registrars rose from 611 to 615. The number of registrations, which steadily increased during the past two triennia and reached a peak figure in 1943, showed a steady decline in the present triennium. The total number of documents registered during the triennium was 4,618,210 as against 5,079,827 during the previous triennium involving a decrease of 9·08 per cent. The decrease is mainly attributed to (i) the cessation of war in the middle of the year 1945, (ii) stabilization and control of prices of foodstuffs and consumer goods, (iii) anti-inflation measures and nation-wide savings campaign and propaganda against hoarding, speculation in landed properties and black-marketing, (iv) the ryots having cleared their debts by sale of a portion of their properties at high prices, being unwilling to part with their remaining landed properties which yielded a good income and (v) [illegible] in stamp duty as well [illegible] viz., [illegible] of surcharge duty on [illegible] property in the [illegible] gifts and mortgages with possession. The decrease in registrations was noticed in all districts except Madras, Ramnad, Calicut and Tellicherry. The aggregate value of registered documents, however, rose from Rs. 203·99 crores to Rs. 239·40 crores and the income from registration fees similarly rose from Rs. 123·02 lakhs to Rs. 170·06 lakhs. Among the several classes of documents relating to immovable property, sales and mortgages declined by 10·62 and 7·88 per cent respectively. Instruments of gifts increased slightly by 5·40 per cent. The number of searches made for encumbrances on properties fell from 283,692 to 191,959. The fall was due to the decrease in registration under sales and mortgages and to the fall in transactions by co-operative societies and land mortgage banks. The total fees foregone by the Registration Department during the triennium for work done on behalf of the co-operative societies was Rs. 3,72,156 as against Rs. 2,75,940 and for work done on behalf of land mortgage banks Rs. 2,90,139 as against Rs. 2,34,281 during the previous triennium.

The total income of the department for the triennium was Rs. 210·05 lakhs as against Rs. 157·10 lakhs in the previous triennium. The corresponding expenditure figures were Rs. 119·08 lakhs and Rs. 94·37 lakhs respectively. Measures were taken during the triennium to improve the financial condition of the department. The fees for registering a will or an authority to adopt were enhanced from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20. The [illegible] payable by the [illegible] municipalities for forwarding to them notices of transfer of titles of properties situated within their jurisdiction were enhanced by 50 per cent. The surcharge duty on transfers of properties, viz., sales, gifts and mortgages with possession within the Madras City was enhanced from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 per cent from 1st April 1944 and then from 2 to 3 per cent with effect from 1st January 1946 and from 3 to 5 per cent with effect from 1st December 1946. The Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, were amended for the levy of duty on certain transfers of property, viz., sales, gifts and mortgages with possession situate in the municipal and local boards areas at the rate of 2 per cent with effect from 30th October 1945. This duty was further enhanced from 2 to 4 per cent with effect from 15th October 1946.

The Administration Report also refers to certain curious and noteworthy documents presented for registration. In one district, for example, an agreement was executed by an uncle in favour of his nephew agreeing to give his daughter in marriage to the latter for a consideration of Rs. 80. In another case, an agreement was entered into by a Hindu man and a Christian woman for getting married. Another instance is that [illegible] woman, for herself and [illegible] daug[illegible]

Working of Jails: Report for 1946

The number of central jails increased from ten to eleven during the year and district and special jails decreased from four to three, the reason for this variation being that the District Jail, Madura, was raised to the status of a central jail. The number of sub-jails was 291 excluding the Borstal School at Palamcottah in Tinnevelly district. The prison population under all categories at the commencement of the year was 18,406. Admissions during the year totalled 164,350 while the number of prisoners discharged was 163,742, leaving 19,014 at the end of year. The daily average number of the prison population which is composed of convicts, under-trials, civil prisoners and state and security prisoners decreased from 19,076·24 to 18,214·47.

There were 46,519 male convicts and 2,918 female convicts received during the year by direct committal as against 43,001 males and 2,999 females in the previous year. The number of direct committals increased during the year consequent on the introduction of 'prohibition' in eight districts. Nine hundred and eighty prisoners convicted under the Defence of India Rules were admitted to the central, district and special jails. Of the total number of 49,508 convict prisoners admitted during the year, 83·25 per cent were Hindus and Sikhs, 8·84 per cent Muslims, 4·07 per cent Christians, 0·42 per cent Buddhists and Jains and 3·42 per cent of all other classes. The corresponding figures during the previous year were 82·71, 9·32, 40·41 and 3·56 respectively. Admissions of prisoners between 16 to 18 years of age, 19 to 21 years of age and 22 to 30 years of age increased from 1,290 to 1,979, 3,343 to 5,012 and 19,054 to 21,129 respectively, while in the age groups of between 31 to 40, 41 to 60 and 60 and above, the number of admissions decreased from 12,789 to 12,660, 8,467 to 7,881 and 1,050 to 799 respectively. The number of admissions of those under 16 years of age increased from 7 to 44 during the year. The number of juveniles between the ages 14 and 15 and the number of adolescents between the ages of 16 and 20 increased from 33 to 48 and 2,972 to 4,562 respectively. The number of adolescents between 21 and ... reased from 3,434 to 3,672. ... tion ... entage of literates is 14·71 and that of illiterates 85·29 as against 16·01 and 83·99 ... vely in the previous

The number of under-trial prisoners admitted during the year was 88,001 and the opening balance 3,598. Of these 86,435 were discharged leaving 5,164 at the end of the year. The daily average number increased from 4,254·82 to 4,386·15. The average period of detention in jails of the prisoners whose cases were pending before the Sessions Court decreased from 39·27 to 33·01 while that before Magistrates increased from 14·82 to 16·28 days. Three hundred and forty-two civil prisoners were admitted during the year and the total number of such prisoners, including those outstanding at the beginning of the year, was 410. Of these 351 were discharged leaving 59 at the close of the year. The daily average of civil prisoners decreased from 46·07 to 44·10. No state prisoner was detained in the jails during the year. There were seven security prisoners at the beginning and all of them were discharged during the year. As compared with the previous year the percentage of sentences of simple imprisonment increased from 19·66 to 28·44 while the percentage of those sentenced to rigorous imprisonment decreased from 80 33 to 71·54. Of the total number admitted, two hundred and thirty-six were sentenced to death and three hundred and thirty-five to transportation for life as against three hundred and sixty-three and two hundred and ninety-six respectively during the previous year. The total number of offences committed by convicts increased from seven hundred and nineteen to eight hundred and seventy during the year. No corporal punishment was awarded during the year.

Education

There was no change in the system of education imparted to convicts. The jails have good libraries and the prisoners are allowed to make free use of them. There were 12,211 books in the jail libraries at the commencement of the year. Lectures on religious and moral subjects were regularly given by the members of the teaching staff. One thousand one hundred and eleven lectures were delivered to the prisoners during the year. Of these 575 were delivered by Christians, 225 by Hindus and 312 by Muslims. Out of the 49,143 prisoners and inmates discharged during the year 2,999 were helped and in 1,017 cases probation officers were appointed. The Standing Advisory Board which met 41 times during the year reviewed 1,290 cases which became eligible for premat...

Industries

Several industries are being run in the jails. Dairies are functioning at the jails at Rajahmundry, Vellore, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore and Salem. The total value of milk raised from the jail dairies and supplied to prisoners in hospitals and for conversion into butter-milk during the year amounted to Rs. 41,543–12–7. Paper-making industry was started in a few jails and brown paper for making covers is manufactured and the covers are supplied to other Government departments. Flat-file boards are also manufactured and supplied to the Superintendent of Stationery. Phenyle is manufactured in the Penitentiary at Madras for supply to jails in the province and the Medical Stores department. Experiments on the manufacture of ink are being made at the Central Jail, Coimbatore, and supply will be undertaken to the Government depatments shortly.

Finance

The total expenditure on jails during the year was Rs. 42,78,882 as against 43,70,531 in the previous year. The total value of the supplies made to public consuming departments by the jails during the year is estimated at Rs. 10,54,53 as against Rs. 6,44,744 in 1942.

Vital Statistics

Vital statistics have shown improvement during the year. The daily average number of sick fell from 183·52 to 176·43. There were 162 deaths among convicts, 13 among under-trials and 2 among civil lunatics as against 227, 25 and 1 respectively during the previous year.

Grow More Food Campaign

The jail population also contributed in a considerable measure to the Grow More Food Campaign. No effort was spared in the jails during the year to bring every available piece of land under cultivation for raising vegetables, cholam and other millets and as a result many of the jails were more or less self-supporting in the matter of vegetables. The lands in the Central Jail, Cannanore, which are unfit for vegetable growing are utilized for growing coconuts, cashewnuts, ... jack trees. Some wet lands ... outside were obtained ... growing vegetables ... of quit ... assessme ... be

Miscellaneous

The year also witnessed important administrative measures. The subsidiary jail manual was amended in order to permit the segregation of under-trial prisoners from those with previous convictions and to keep prisoners in the open air where suitable enclosures exist. 'B' class prisoners are now allowed the same privileges as 'A' class prisoners in respect of clothing and bedding. 'A' class prisoners are allowed the privileges of purchasing tooth-paste and tooth-brush at their own cost. 'A' class prisoners are also permitted to use their own razors subject to the discretion of the Superintendent and on condition that the razor should be kept with the jail authorities when not in use. Members of the Madras Legislative Assembly, Members of Legislative Council and Central Legislative Assembly have been appointed as special visitors to jails including sub-jails within their respective constituencies. A lady doctor has been deputed from the General Hospital, Madras, for the female section of the Penitentiary. The probation system has been provincialized and a Chief Probation Superintendent has been appointed.

Palamcottah Borstal School

The main features of the working of the Borstal School at Palamcottah in Tinnevelly district during the year 1946 are summarised below for general information. Incidentally this is the only Borstal School in the Province.

The strength of the school, during the year under review increased to 758 as against the available accommodation of 647. The strength at the end of the year was 750. There was thus over-crowding throughout the year. The daily average attendance was 673·96 as against 575·81 in the previous year. The system of education and industrial training was the same as in previous years. As usual, sports, classes in industrial and physical training, scout craft, first-aid and ambulance, religious and moral instruction and recreation formed an integral part of the training. Every inmate is given a sound elementary education for two hours a day in his mother-tongue. The chief handicrafts taught in the school are weaving, tailoring, carpentry, blacksmithy, masonry, book-binding, agriculture and band. Paper-making industry is another useful activity and flat-file cases to the Stationery department are supplied by the school. The boys are selected according to their aptitudes for the different trades. The ratio per cent of inmates employed on manufactures was 51·87 as against 48·3 in 1945. The gross outturn on manufactures during the year was Rs. 25,388–2–1 as against Rs. 18,710–6–8 in the previous year. The total production of vegetables in the school gardens was 139,474 lb. valued at Rs. 6,537 as against 122,094½ lb., valued at Rs. 5,739–4–0 in 1945. The total number of admissions to the hospital decreased from 127 to 91 and the daily average sick increased from 1·56 to 2·4 as compared with the previous year. The general health of the inmates was quite satisfactory. No death occurred during the year. The number of escapes from the school was two as in the previous year. One was recaptured during the year and the other is still at large.

Of 1,010 discharged during the five years 1942 to 1946 only 5 reverted to crime in 1946. The total expenditure in respect of the school increased from Rs. 1,50,169 to Rs. 1,63,369, while the cost per head decreased from Rs. 260–12–9 in 1945 to Rs. 242–6–5 in 1946 due to the increase in the daily average number of admissions of inmates as compared with the previous year.

B and C Mills Dispute

Madras Labour Union Declared Unlawful

The Madras Labour Union having become a hot-bed of power-politics, the Government have decided to declare it unlawful and to forfeit its funds to the Government. This decision was announced by the Government in a Communique issued on the 10th June.

The Madras Labour Union has, during the last one year, been responsible for two illegal strikes in the B. & C. Mills. On 8th June 1946, a strike was declared on a demand that certain Punjabi watchmen should be dismissed. After prolonged negotiations extending over 47 days, the strike ended, but was declared to have been illegal by an adjudicator. On the 17th February 1947, the Union sent a strike notice cont[illegible]ing 21 major demands to the [illegible]ent. These demands were [illegible] of general grievances. [illegible] Court [illegible] bour and the [illegible] of Enquiry was [illegible] most of the issues raised by the Union and had even taken evidence on these issues with the co-operation of the Union leaders, the threatened strike would be illegal under the Trade Disputes Act. This had no effect on the Union leaders, who informed the Commissioner of Labour on March 4th that the strike notice would not be withdrawn. As the leaders were making much of some minor issues not referred to the sitting Court of Enquiry, the Government constituted a fresh court on 10th March 1947 to give an immediate decision on all the issues. The Labour Union leaders refused to recognize this court, would not participate in it and declined to accept Government's good offices to effect a settlement. Instead, they ordered a strike on 11th March 1947, the day after the Court of Enquiry was constituted and the [illegible] had explained again that a strike would [illegible] discus[illegible] the Government and the President of the Union and between the latter and management failed because the President insisted on the acceptance of all his demands without reference to adjudication or arbitration. As the Union President's conduct throughout was obstructive and defiant and as he was leading an illegal strike for a second time without showing the slightest interest in the fate of the workers, he was arrested and externed. The strike was then prohibited under section 10 (3) of the Industrial Disputes Act, but by then the Union leadership had been assumed by supporters of the externed President, who considered his return to authority as of greater consequence than a solution of the strike and the happiness of the workers.

After protracted discussi[illegible] Government, the management [illegible] acting President of the Unio[illegible] certain terms for the settleme[illegible] strike, but these terms wer[illegible]

by some of the Union leaders. One of these leaders Sri Kalyanasundara Mudaliar and representatives of the Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress had futher discussions with the Government on the 6th June and were given certain terms for settling the strike. Although Sri Kalyanasundaram Mudaliar promised to communicate the decision of the Executive Committee the next day, no reply has so far been received by the Government. But the negotiations exposed the existence of at least two major cliques in the Union, the Acting President leading one and advising the workers to go back, and the strike leader leading the other and insisting on the release of the externed President. The latter, however, has made his release impossible by continuing in his old conduct of persistent disregard of authority and reappearing in Madras in defiance of the externment order against him. The Union is thus torn by internal dissensions and is incapable of working on true trade union lines. It has become a hot-bed of power politics and shows no consideration for the workers, who are mostly ignorant of the real issues over which they were led into this strike. Complaints have also been received that the Union funds are being misused. Union representatives opposed to a settlement have been assiduously inciting igno rant men and women to violence and making inflammatory speeches. But the workers are suffering and have appealed to the Government for permission to return to work under proper protection. In these circumstances, the Government have decided after careful consideration to declare the Madras Labour Union an unlawful body and forfeit union funds to the Government. The irresponsible individuals who have opposed the Acting President's endeavours to secure an honourable settlement have been taken into custody.

The Government have also agreed that in view of the Acting President's appeal to the workers to resume work and the anxiety expressed by both workers and the management to respond to this appeal, the mills should be opened. Such workers as desire to return to duty may do so and will be given [illegible] possible protection. All [illegible] create disorder inside or [illegible] mills will be severely dealt [illegible]

[illegible] Government hope [illegible] [illegible] will realise that they have [illegible] for political purposes and [illegible] resume work forthwith. The action the Government have taken against the Union and some of its leaders is a temporary phase in the history of this Union and has been forced on them by a revolutionary clique in its executive. It is earnestly hoped that all workers and the public would cooperative with Government in their effort to combat the anti-social activities of this clique so that the Union may be revived under democratic auspices and work for the welfare of the workers.

The Aiyanavaram Incident

The follow ing is the official version based on the report of the Commissioner of Police, of the incident at Aiyanavaram when Mr. S. C. C. Anthoni Pillai was arrested. :—

At about 7-15 p.m. on 31st May 1947, information having been received by the City Intelligence Section that Mr. Anthoni Pillai, who had been externed from the Province and Ranganathan were attending a rally of the B. & C. Mills strikers at Aiyanavaram, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Law and Order organized a Police party and proceeded to the scene immediately to arrest Mr. Anthoni Pillai. The rally of the B. & C. Mills strikers was being held in open harvested fields with intersecting bunds. There were approximately two to three thousand strikers including volunteers and others. When the Police party arrived at the scene Mr. Anthoni Pillai was actually addressing the rally and Messrs. T. V. Kalyanasundra Mudaliar, S. Suryaprakasa Rao, Mrs. Anthoni Pillai and others were seen on or near the dais. The Deputy Commissioner of Police, Law and Order, accompanied by the other officers proceeded to the dais and informed Mr. Anthoni Pillai that he was under arrest and advised him to tell the workers to remain calm.

As Mr. Anthoni Pillai was being escorted back to the police lorry, the escorting police party was heavily stoned. A lathi charge was made to clear the crowd. The strikers dispersed in all directions but returned surrounding and stoning the police party. Another lathi charge was made to clear the workers but owing to the unfavourable conditions of terrain and light, this charge did not produce the desired effect and the police party had to fall back on the lorries as they sustained very heavy stoning. The attacks of [illegible] upon [illegible] were directed in particular [illegible] Pillai had been secured [illegible] Anthoni [illegible] evident that the mob was determined to rescue him. The Deputy Commissioner of Police ordered a Sub-Inspector to fire with his revolver in order to clear the mob which was closing in rapidly on the lorry in a threatening fashion. Six rounds in all were fired, and this had the effect of dispersing the mob temporarily and the Deputy Commissioner of Police ordered the parties to move off with the prisoner. While they were doing so the lorry in which Mr. Anthoni Pillai was secured was again heavily stoned. About half a mile from the scene the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Law and Order, reorganized the strength at his disposal and after sending Mr. Anthoni Pillai and the injured constables to Vyasarpady Police Station with a proper escort, himself returned to the scene with a party. He found the mob stoning the house of Mr. Manikkam Pillai, retired Inspector of Police, apparently as a reprisal for his sheltering two Intelligence Section Officers who were watching the meeting. The mob had also set fire to the thatched shed in the garden and to a motor car underneath the porchway of the house. The mob was chased away and fire in the motor car was put out.

Some of the B. & C. Mill strikers rallied outside Vyasarpady Police Station as Mr. Anthoni Pillai was being removed from that Station to Mylapore Police Station for safety. They attempted to create a disturbance and were dispersed by a lathi charge.

Approximately 30 police officers in all sustained stone injuries. It is reported that 15 strikers were injured in the lathi charge. Two workers were arrested for causing the disturbance outside Vysarpady Police Station. Vigorous patrols were maintained in the area throughout the night of May 31 and are continuing.

Workers create disturbance

With reference to demonstration made by the B. & C. Mill strikers on 1st June 1947 in the Moore Market and other places near the Central Railway Station, the following official account of the occurrence was released to the press :—

Information was received on the afternoon of 1st June 1947, that the strikers were planning a demonstration at the Waltax Theatre [illegible] Necessary extra bandobast was [illegible] fore made at the theatre and or [illegible] Road. At about 6-30 p.m. [illegible] the strikers who had infilt[illegible] [illegible] the Central Railway [illegible]

reported to be creating a disturbance thereby pelting stones on the passing cars and pedestrians. The strikers quickly moved through the Moore Market into the People's Park. They caused damage to a sherbat stall and snatched some ready-made clothes from a shop outside the Moore Market. They also threw stones at a meeting of the Foundry workers which was being held in the People's Park under the presidency of Mr. Kannappar. Some furniture was broken and the meeting ended abruptly. Meanwhile a police party had arrived at the scene and the strikers dispersed pell-mell to different parts of the Park and disappeared. Police patrols in the area were maintained till conditions returned to normal.

As a sequel to the disturbance created by the strikers, the Commissioner of Police cancelled the permission given to the Madras Labour Union earlier to hold a meeting in Choolai on the evening of 1st June 1947 and it is proposed not to permit any meetings of the Madras Labour Union till the situation shows improvement.

The Sub-divisional Magistrate, Saidapet, has also issued an order under Section 144, Cr.P.C. prohibiting meetings in Sembiam Station limits on the border for a period of 14 days in view of the situation arising from the continuance of the B. & C. Mill strike.

Government's Steps

The following official account of the steps taken by the Madras Government in connexion with the B. and C. Mills' strike was issued on the 11th.

The Police took possession of the notified premises of the Madras Labour Union, consequent on the declaration of that body as unlawful under section 16 of the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908. The Union has a number of sub-offices in Madras City in the Perambur Barracks and Vysarpady area. Officers of the City Police were deputed to visit these sub-offices ...ing the early hours of 10th June ...d to inform any members found therein of the Government Order declaring the Union unlawful.

Government's orders detaining in their present residences Mr. T. V. Kalyanasundara Mudaliar and Mrs. S. C. C. Antoni Pillai were served on the parties in the early hours of 10th June, and ...itable guards have been stationed ... residences to ensure that no ... ...nment order occurs. ... have been

section 2 (1) (*a*) of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947. They are—

(1) Messrs G. Nagiah, (2) Palanivelu, (3) Chinnappan, (4) Balasubramanay Mudaliar, (5) Chokkalingam, (6) A. Doraiswami Nayudu, (7) Murugesa Naicker and (8) Ganesan.

Necessary steps are taken to effect the detention of other persons whose activities are similarly considered prejudicial to the public peace. As a precautionary measure against possible violent reactions from the more militant section of the B. and C. Mills strikers and their sympathisers, the Commissioner of Police promulgated an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code on 10th June. The Madras City Police reinforced by contingents from outside have been mobilized to meet eventualities. The situation has been so far quiet.

Government's orders freezing the funds of the Madras Labour Union in certain banks in the City were served on the concerned banks on the forenoon of 10th June.

Workers urged to return

The Management of the B. & C. Mills have informed the Government that while they are prepared to reinstate workers who resume work on or before 19th June 1947 without loss of privileges, they will accept workers after that date only on such fresh terms and conditions as they deem fit. They have also decided to recruit new labour in place of those not reporting for work by the 19th June. To prevent loss of privileges and jobs, workers are once again advised to return to duty by the 19th June. The Government regret that they will not be in a position to intercede with the management on behalf of workers who deliberately choose to forfeit their privilages and jobs.

Activities of the Fisheries Department

An increase in the number of fish-curing yards from 112 in 1944–45 to 115 in 1945–46, an improvement in demonstration and propaganda work in regard to fish-farming activities, and an increase in the number of fishery schools on the West Coast are some of the important features of the Administ... me

in many directions. The Centres of Deep-Sea fishing operations were increased from 28 to 46 during the year. The total quantity of fish caught in the departmental centres were 617,362 lb. of which 454,426 lb. were sharks. The sale proceeds of fish amounted to Rs. 45,535 and the quantity of Shark liver obtained was 53·514 lb. The total quantity of Crude Shark Liver Oil extracted in the fish-curing yards and in the oil extraction centres both in the East Coast and West Coast was 9,672 gallons as against 8,798 gallons in the previous year. The number of fish-curing yards also increased from 112 to 115 and the total quantity of fresh fish brought to the yard was 2,329,628 maunds. Fish manure industry also showed good results. The total quantity of fish-meal and fish-manure manufactured by private individuals on the West Coast amounted to 6,000 tons.

Side by side with the regular Departmental work demonstration and propaganda also were carried on. Rural fishery Demonstration Units opened 21 base farms and nurseries and helped to extend the fish farming activities in the inland waters by imparting necessary instructions to village officers, school teachers, ryots and fishermen. Under the socio-economic activities of the department, education takes the first place. On the West Coast there were 56 fishery schools with 9,922 pupils of which 5,694 were boys and 4,228 girls, as against 51 schools with 8,713 pupils in the previous year. On the East Coast there were 3 schools at the end of the year with 194 pupils. The Government sanctioned the supply of free mid-day meals to children attending fishery schools in the East and West Coast on all working days in the school year. They also sanctioned the supply of free mid-day meals to children of fishermen attending 33 coastal schools in Ramnad and Tinnevelly districts under the management of Christian missionaries.

There were 60 fishermen co-operative societies in the West Coast at the end of the year as against 59 in the previous year. For the development of Inland fisheries and for the greater exploitation of the sea fisheries the two Fishery Developments Boards under the chairmanship of De...mental officers continued to do u... work during the year.

...e total revenue was ... against Rs. 10·70 la...

Labour Situation in the Province

Report for the fortnight ending the 7th June

The President, Hotel Workers' Union, Calicut, reports that the hotel workers of Calicut, who struck work on 9th May 1947, resumed work on 28th May 1947 as a result of the compromise arrived at between the management and the Hotel Worker's Union, Calicut.

The Secretaries of the Thunoli Mills, Labour Union, Cannanore, have issued a notice of strike, dated 4th June 1947 to the management of the Thunoli Mills, Cannanore, intimating that the workers will go on strike if their demands for four months income as bonus, ıcrease of basic wages, recognition of ıe Union, provision of provident ınd, canteen, etc., are not conceded efore 18th June 1947. The Comıissioner of Labour has instructed he Labour Officer, Calicut, to advise he Union to withdraw the strike notice nd to await the result of the Court of nquiry for timber and saw mills.

The Secretary, Calicut Textile Vorker's Union, Calicut (Communist) eports that the Union has decided o call off the strike in the 25 handloom actories from 5th June 1947 consequent on the appointment of Court f Inquiry for the handloom industry n the Province.

The workers of the Buckingham nd Carnatic Mills, Madras who struck vork on 11th March 1947 have not et resumed work.

Under Section 11 (5) of the Industrial sputes Act, 1947, the Government Madras have appointed Mr. S. ıtharamakrishnan, Managing Diır, Messrs. Simpson and Co., Ltd., ras as Assessor for the Court of Inquiry for Motor Transport Services and Motor Transport Workshops in the place of Mr. E. A. Watson who has resigned.

Sri P. R. K. Sarma, M.L.C., President, Madras Kerosene Oil Workers' Union issued a notice of strike to the managements of the Burma Oil Company, Standard Vacum Oil Company and Caltax (India) Ltd., Madras on 16th May 1947 intimating that the workers would go on strike after 14 days if their demands for bonus, festival holidays [illegible] house rent allowance are n[illegible] ıceded by the management. [illegible] commendation of the Com[illegible] of Labour, the Government [illegible] G.O. Ms. No. [illegible] dated [illegible] 1947 referred the [illegible] ıte [illegible] to the Industrial

Tribunal. (Sri Rao Bahadur M. Venkataramayya) already appointed for the dispute in Burmah Shell Company, Madras.

In their Order Ms. No. 2227, Development Department, dated 20th May 1947 the Government of Madras have referred the dispute between the workers and Managements of Cinema Theatres in Madras City to Sri Diwan Bahadur K. S. Ramaswamy Sastry (Industrial Tibunal) for adjudication.

In their Order Ms. No. 2303, Development Department, dated 26th May 1947, the Government of Madras have constituted a Planning Committee on industries to draw up long term and short term plans for industrialization in this Province.

In their Order Ms. No. 2304, Development Department, dated 26th May 1947, the Government of Madras have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal in the dispute between workers and the managements of the Motor Transport Services and Motor Transport Workshops in the Province regarding interim relief.

In their Order Ms. No. 2336, Development Department, dated 27th May 1947, the Government of Madras have constituted a Court of Inquiry under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, consisting of Sri Rao Saheb K. A. Mukundan, Retired Deputy Collector as its sole member to go into the problem connected with the working conditions of labour in the timber and saw mills in the districts of Malabar South and Kanara.

In their Order Ms. No. 2354, Development Department, dated 28th May 1947, the Government of Madras have constituted a Court of Inquiry under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 consisting of Rao Bahadur Dr. B. V. Narayanaswamy Naidu, as its sole member to go into the problems connected with the working conditions of Labour in the handloom industry in the Province.

In their Order Ms. No. 2363, Development Department, dated 29th May 1947, the Government of Madras have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of the East Asiatic Co., Ltd., Royapuram to an Industrial Tribunal consisting of Sri Diwan Bahadur V. Bashyam Ayyangar, Retired District Judge, for adjudication.

The Government of Madras have ordered that the Court of Inquiry constituted for the Motor Transport Services and workshops should conduct the inquiry relating to engineering firms and type-foundries also.

The workers of the Dhanalakshmi Mills, Ltd., Tiruppur who struck work on 2nd May 1947 as a protest against the dismissal of three workers for misbehaviour resumed work on 7th May 1947 unconditionally.

The workers of Sri Ramalinga Choodambika Mills, Ltd., Coimbatore, struck work on 16th May 1947 at 2-15 p.m. as a protest against the fining of three doffing boys and demanding increase in the strength of doffing boys in the spinning section and payment of absentees wages to the doffing boys when they are asked to do excess work. As the other departments of carding, roving and reeling are inter-connected, the work in those departments was also stopped. Consequently, the management declared a lockout on 16th May 1947 at 9 p.m. On the intervention of Labour Officer, Coimbatore, the workers resumed work on 22nd May 1947.

Twenty-seven workers (Moulders) employed in the Argus Engineering Works, Coimbatore, struck work on 19th May 1947 without notice, demanding redressal of certain grievances put forward by them. On the intervention of the Labour Officer, Coimbatore, the dispute was settled and the workers resumed work on 20th May 1947.

The Supervisory staff and clerks of the Jayalakshmi Mills, Singanallur, Coimbatore, struck work on 21st May 1947 as a protest against the misbehaviour of the workers towards the clerical and supervisory staff and threat of assault on the staff. They resumed work on 22nd May 1947.

In G.O. Ms. No. 2379, Development Department, dated 29th May 1947, the dispute between the workers and the management of Sri Palamalai Ranganathar Mills, Periyanayakanpalayam, has been referred to an Industrial Tribunal (Sri C. R. Krishna Rao, Retired District and Sessions Judge) for adjudication.

Sri B. S. Mallikarj[illegible] M.L.A. (Labour), Viz[illegible] that the manageme[illegible] Paper Mills [illegible] suddenly closed the[illegible] reports of the Inspecto[illegible]

Rajahmundry, and the Labour Officer, Vizagapatam, are awaited.

The Inspector of Factories, Guntur, has reported that the India Metal Works, Kurnool, has been closed on 25th April 1947 as the Kurnool Town Municipality has refused to issue a licence to the factory.

The Proprietor of the Rajah Mills, Madura, has put up a notice that night shift will be stopped, and the day shift alone will be continued from 16th June 1947 that the workers necessary for the above shift alone in the order of seniority of their services in the mills will be retained for work and the services of the rest will be dispensed with after 15th June 1947 and that when the night shift is resumed, the workers so discharged will be given first preference for re-employment if they present themselves for enlistment within three days of notice of resumption of the night shift.

The Collector of Malabar reports that the workers of fifteen handloom factories in Calicut struck work on 12th May 1947.

The Commissioner of Labour has informed the Collector of Malabar about the Press Communique issued by Government stating that they have decided to appoint a Court of Inquiry to report on the conditions of labour and emoluments including bonus, in the handloom industry in the Province. The Collector of Malabar has been asked to advise the union officials of the action taken by Government and to instruct them to call off the strike.

The action committee of the Muslim Tobacco Labour Union, Palghat, have given a notice of strike to all the Tobacco Merchants on 17th May 1947 stating that the workers will go on strike if their demands for payment of wages, by the end of every month, fixation of the rate of loading a bundle of beedi at annas six and the rate for rebundling at annas twelve are not conceded. The Commissioner of Labour has instructed the Labour Officer, Calicut, to advise the Union to withdraw the strike notice and to await the result of the Court of Inquiry.

In their Order Ms. No. 1951, Development Department, dated 3rd May 1947, the Government of Madras have accepted the Adjudicator's award in the dispute between the workers and the management of the India Ceramics, Limited, Nellore.

The Management of the Pulliccar Mills, Tiruchengode, Salem district, have closed down their mills from 7th May 1947 as some of their workmen refused to run the machines. The Labour Officer, Vellore, is trying to bring about a settlement.

In their Order Ms. No. 2224, Development Department, dated 19th May 1947, the Government of Madras have referred the dispute between the boatmen and boat owners of Cuddalore Port to the District and Sessions Judge, South Arcot (Industrial Tribunal), for adjudication.

The Workers of the Deccan Sugar and Abkhari Company, Limited, Pugalur, Trichinopoly district, struck work on 16th May 1947 demanding the reinstatement of temporary seasonal workers discharged by the management. They resumed work on 19th May 1947.

The Workers, Union has issued a notice of strike to the management of the Deccan Sugar and Abkhari Company, Limited, Pugalur on 25th May 1947 intimating that the workers will go on strike if their demands for payment of three months, wages with allowance to workers who are retrenched, conversion of weekly payment into monthly payments, leave facilities, etc., are not conceded by the management. The Commissioner of Labour has instructed the Labour Officer, Vellore, to bring about a settlement of the dispute and to advise the Union not to precipitate a strike.

In their Order Ms. No. 2327, Development Department, dated 27th May 1947, the Government of Madras have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of Sri Krishna Jute Mills, Ellore, to an Industrial Tribunal consisting of the District and Sessions Judge, West Godavari, for adjudication. The Government have asked the management to re-entertain the dismissed workers pending adjudication.

Service, the key-note of Education

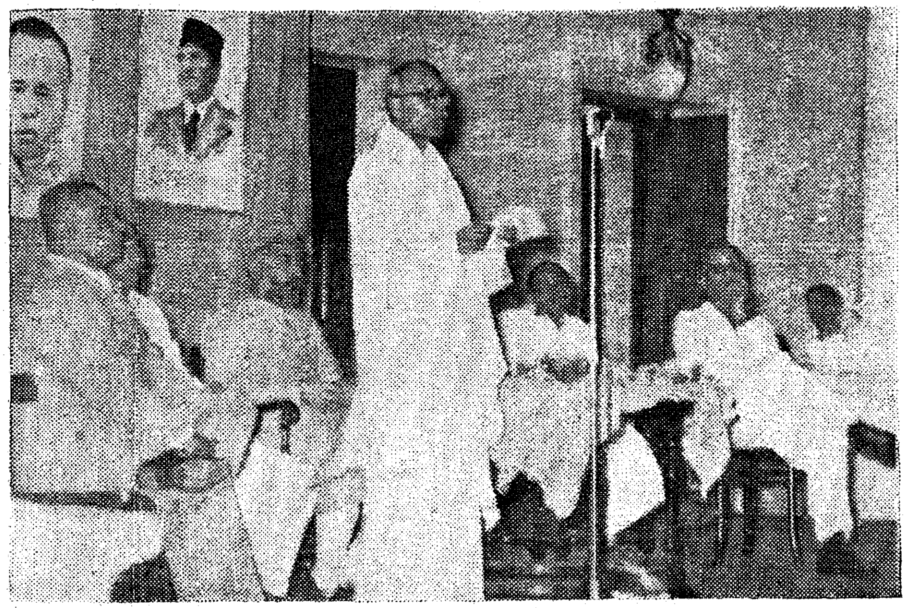
Premier opens Conference of International Students

[*Opening the Conference of International Students' Service, the Hon'ble Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar, observed that the way to a new and better world lay through education based on faith, fear of God, love of man, and devotion to duty.*]

The idea of education and service going together is nothing new in our country. Our fore-fathers in various Ashrams and forests and universities like Nalanda and Takshasila lived a life of dedication and service to humanity. They were not actuated by any motives of personal profit or aggrandizement, but were imbued with a spirit of service. The relationship between the Guru and the Sishya was not regulated by any [illegible] payment or any return in kind. [illegible] took his life as a life [illegible] and the Sishya also spent [illegible] the Gurukulam as a life of [illegible] for service. Of late our [illegible] become commercialised and debased. Our education seems to be intended to produce a class of people who are intent only upon self-aggrandizement. It is not a spirit of service, that is inculcated among the present generation of students. The educated man thinks it his right to get the best in the World and behaves as though others are born in the World only to serve him. He has no respect for the elders or a faith in the ultimate good of the World. Education based on faith, fear of God and love of man, honesty and devotion to duty should be inculcated among our young people. It is lack of this spirit which applied in the scientific world has led to the creation of engines of destruction opening up very terrifying prospects for the future world. It gives me great pleasure to see that our young people have now tried to turn the tide of commercialism and self-aggrandizement in education and are trying to inculcate a spirit of service among our young men and women. It is only such service that can bridge the gulf between the educated and uneducated and the townsman and the vill[illegible]

A Warning

It is [illegible] hope and f[illegible] welcome you to this g[illegible] [illegible]



The Hon'ble Sri O.P. Ramaswamy Reddiar, the Premier of Madras, delivering the inaugural address at the South East Asia Conference of the International Student Service held at Madras on 9th June 1947. Sitting behind the Premier is Dr. Zakir Hussain who presided over the conference and on the left the Hon'ble Sri T. S. Avanashilingam Chettiar who welcomed the delegates.

the same time, I won't be doing my duty if I do not say that I am pained to see that you students are also divided like your leaders on questions of politics. This life of students is a life of dedication and preparation for the world. We in the East want a lot of technically trained people equipped to do research to rebuild our countries and raise them to their former glory. You must bestow your attention on equipping yourselves for the conditions of the world. That does not mean that you should take part in the day-to-day politics. I see that your conference has been convened by the Indian Students' Congress, the Students' Organization and the Muslim Students' Federation. What have students got to do with politics? What I say may not be quite pleasing to your ears, but I feel it my duty to warn you against taking sides in day-to-day political warfare. You must of course study the political situation in our country and the problems facing the country to equip yourself for serving the country to the best effect. It would be a happy day when the students can have only one organization which devotes itself only to the service of fellow human beings and are not divided on the basis of political principles.

Whatever we elders may be, it is up to you, the representatives of the younger generation to spread the message of love and peace and eschew hatred and create a better world. I understand that your aims are to bring help and succour to a war-torn world and bring the milk of human kindness to the sufferers from the aftermath of war. I can assure you that you will have the full sympathy and blessings of the whole humanity in the noble task. I pray to God that your endeavours should be crowned with all success.

But it seems as if we are in a worse position today than ever before; especially in this country with want of food and insufficient clothing and everything else not available to an extent necessary. We are going through a period the like of which has not been met for the last half a century and more. But yet there seems to be a golden ray; a ray which promises hope and cheer —God willing, we shall have complete independence within a few months.

The Task ahead

And now comes the great responsibility. Till now we have been abusing a foreign Government for all our ills; hereafter we have to thank ourselves for the good or the evil that may come to us.

Our problems are immense. The poverty of our people, want of food and shelter—these must be tackled at once. Wealth has been concentrated in a few hands and it is essential that there must be a more even distribution amidst the people. More than distribution, what we require is the creation of wealth. We must understand what really wealth is. Money is valuable because through it we can store the value of our labours. If by a national effort we can put in greater labour, then everyone of us will contribute towards greater wealth in this country. It is through labour and effort that we create things which are necessary for human existence. Whether it be in the field or in the factory, whether it be in the office or in the workshop, whether it be as a scholar or as a teacher it is human effort that is the sole creator of all wealth in this world. This basic understanding of wealth is something which everyone of us should appreciate and with this understanding must come a tremendous effort to put in the best labour we can in every walk of life. For only through incessant service can we permanently enlarge the scope of our wealth.

Advance or an Illusion?

Humanity has been struggling along for many millions of years. People always imagine that they are more civilized and advanced than those that went before them. Every successive generation thinks that they are more advanced in knowldge and have gone further in civilization than their forefathers. The present [illegible] thinks that by the large [illegible] that science has made, we h[illegible] the heights of civilization [illegible] stop [illegible]

Education Minister's Appeal to the Indian Youth

Addressing the delegates to the International Students Service Con[illegible]rence [illegible] Hon'ble Sri T. S. Avinasi[illegible]tiar, observed :—

[illegible] have come and gone [illegible] not raised [illegible] the common man. The [illegible] during the [illegible] 1947 [illegible] to the [illegible]

war were mostly forgotten very soon after the war was over. Safety of hearth and home, freedom from the four fears, liquidation of poverty and the establishment of a state in which men and women will live in freedom and joy, those were the ideals to which humanity was looking to at the end of the war.

what is the culture and civilisation that we have reached. If speed of travel, mechanical contrivances, harnessing the powers of nature, enlarging instruments of destruction and chemical warfare mean progress and civilisation, we have certainly advanced in civilisation. But thoughtful men have begun to consider whether there has been any real advance in culture and civilisation. Have they made our men and women more happy and have they succeeded in giving our women and children greater security of life and has the common man been saved from poverty and misery? Considering from these aspects we must concede that our search after peace plenty and happiness for everybody has been like going after the willow the visp which recedes at every step we advance.

Man's nature must change

It is true that we have advanced in knowledge and in science. It is true that humanity is more educated today than it ever was. It is true that today people have greater knowledge of external science than they ever possessed; but the question is to what purpose. Why has man in spite of this advancement in knowledge not really progressed in happiness and in joy? Why on the other hand in spite of this knowledge man has covered himself with barbarity and wetted his hands with the blood of millions. The reason is not far to seek. The answer is within himself. While his powers have increased he himself has not changed. He continues to be the same old man of millions of years ago subject to the same rage and same passions and subject to the same love for possessions and greed. The result of the enhancement of his powers has been ruthlessness in exploitation and destruction. And so if man is really to progress, it cannot be through atomic power or chemical warfare. It can only be by changing his own nature and by making man nobler than what he is today. These scientific instruments and knowledge are like the guns which a man can possess. In a good man's hands it becomes an object of protection; but in a bad man's hands it becomes an instrument of oppression and destruction. Even so unless man's nature changes into something higher, nobler, [illegible] these scientific researches and ad[illegible]ment will be so many instruments [illegible] oppression and [illegible]: and so if there is to be permanent [illegible] and if there is to be real advancement of culture, civilisation and good life, we must concentrate our efforts to change the nature of man into something better and nobler and that I hope is one of the objects of this Conference and I wish you success in this noble objective.

Young men are pure, strong and full of noble impulses. If this old sordid world is to be refashioned into, one of hope, love and beauty, it can be done only through our students. They have ideals; they have strength of mind; they have intelligence as well as application and so it has been given to you to lay the foundations for a great and glorious future for this country and for this world.

The Burmese delegates to the South East Asia Conference of the International Student Service (9th June 1947).

Front Row.—(From left to right) *Ko Ba Set, Ko Maung Maung Kyau, Ko Mya Tun, Than Than Nepai, Daw Khur Thein, Ko Than Mg (Leader), Ko Nyunt Wai (Burmese delegates).*

Back Row.—(From right to left) *Ko Nyunt Thein (Burmese delegate), Moloslao Krasna (Czeckoslovakia Guests) and two comrades.*

Price index numbers

The index numbers of rural prices for the month of May 1947 with the year ending 30th June 1936 as base or 100 were as follows for the several centres in the province.

District.		Rural centre.		Rural price index.	Variation when compared with the index for the previous month.
Vizagapatam	..	Adivivaram	..	389	A rise of 14 points.
		Thettangi	..	358	Stationary.
West Godavari	..	Alamuru	..	364	A fall of 2 points.
Bellary	..	Madavaram	..	413	A rise of one point.
South Arcot	..	Puliyur	..	298	A fall of 8 [illegible]
		Agaram	..	310	A fall of [illegible]
Trichinopoly	..	Thulayanatham	..	391	A fall of [illegible]
Madura	..	Erid[illegible]	..	330	Stationary
		Cokilapuram	..	348	A fall of [illegible]
Coimbatore	..	Kinathukaduvu	..	310	A rise of [illegible]
Malabar	..	[illegible]	..	403	A rise of [illegible]
Chingleput	..	Guduvancheri	..	345	A rise of [illegible]
		Kunnattur	..	32[illegible]	Stati[illegible]

Enhanced Scales of Pay for Teachers

Further Revision by the Government

In view of the feelings expressed among the teaching profession, Government have come forward to make a further revision of salaries amongst teachers employed in the elementary and secondary schools. Attempts have also been made to procure a minimum pay for trained teachers in elementary schools in aided management also. The Government have also come forward to guarantee the local board scales to teachers working in aided secondary schools. The pay of the Hindusthani Pandits as well as of Physical Training Instructors have also been revised. The matter of Pandits is under further consideration.

The Government have now done all that they can in the present financial circumstances. The Government appeal to the managements of both elementary and secondary schools to do their best to give fair conditions of pay and service to the teachers under their managements. The matter of revising the conditions of service of teachers under managements is under separate consideration of Government. The Government are anxious to do their best by the teachers. While Government appreciate their contribution towards education in the province, they would like to remind everybody concerned about the large strides that we have yet to take in this direction. This can be done only through the willing and earnest co-operation of the teachers, the parents and the public and the Government hope they will get their fullest co-operation.

Representations have been made to the Government that the revised scales of pay recently sanctioned for teachers are not adequate. The Government have reconsidered the question and pass the following orders; which will take effect from 1st January 1947, except to the extent specified under certain items below :—

(i) *Elementary schools under Local Bodies*—

(a) *Lower Elementary Grade teachers* should be granted an increase of Rs. 3 a month over the scale of Rs. 20—1—30 sanctioned in G.O. No. 975, Education, dated 10th May 1947, i.e., the scale will be Rs. 23—1—33.

(b) *Higher Elementary Grade teachers.*—Instead of the scale of Rs. 25—1—40 fixed in the Government Order cited above with a craft allowance of Rs. 5 attached to it, the scale will be Rs. 30—1—45 and no separate craft allowance will be given.

(c) *Secondary Grade teachers.*—These teachers are now eligible for a scale of Rs. 35—1½—65 with a craft allowance of Rs. 5 a month. The Government direct that the scale be refixed at Rs. 40—1½—55—2—75. No separate craft allowance will be paid to these teachers.

NOTE.—Such of the teachers in (') (c) above as ar[illegible] not, however, at pr[illegible]sent qual[illegible]fied in any [illegible] the prescribed crafts, will be required to [illegible]qu[illegible]re the qu[illegible]lificat[illegible]on within a p[illegible]rio[illegible] of [illegible]wo years.

(ii) *Elementary schools under [illegible]ivate [m]anagements and panchayat [illegible]ols.*—[illegible] modification of the orders [illegible] 1 of G.O. No. 975, Edu[cation, dat]ed 10th May 1947, the [illegible] direct that the scales of [illegible]ts for teachers be revised [illegible]y :—

Class of teachers.	Scale already fixed.	Scale now fixed.
	RS.	RS.
Lower Elementary—		
Untrained ..	8	11
Trained ..	15	18
Higher elementary—		
Trained ..	20—½—25	25—½—30
Secondary grade—		
Trained ..	25—1—35	35—1—45
Collegiate grade—		
Trained ..	35	35—1—45

In view of the increased scales of grants now sanctioned, the Government have decided to insist on managements of schools allowing a minimum pay of Rs. 30 to a Higher Elementary grade trained teacher and Rs. 40 to a secondary grade trained teacher; in other words, managements should supplement the grants from their own resources to the extent necessary; this will be insisted on as from 1st July 1947, but the Director of Public Instruction is authorized to have an extension of time granted in suitable cases. The Director of Public Instruction is requested to submit necessary amendments to the rules relating to aid to elementary schools.

(iii) *Secondary schools under local bodies.*—(a) Secondary grade teachers are now allowed a time-scale of Rs. 40—1½—70 with a craft allowance of Rs. 5. These teachers will be allowed a scale of Rs. 45—2—85. No craft allowance will be paid to them in addition.

(b) The scale of Rs. 70—5—140 with a craft allowance of Rs. 5 for L.T. Assistants will be replaced by a scale of Rs. 75—5—[1]45 and the allowance will be abolished.

NOTE.—The classes of teachers mentioned in items (a) and (b) above should however acquire the qualification in any of prescribed crafts within a period of two years if they do not now possess that qualification.

(c) The scales of pay for the undermentioned classes of teachers will be revised as shown hereunder :—

Class of teachers.	Scale already fixed.	Scale now fixed.
	RS.	RS.
(i) *Physical training instructors and instructresses.*		
Grade I—S.S.L.C. holders with a higher grade certificate in physical education.	45—1½—75	50—2—70—2½—95
Grade II—Completed S.S.L.C. with a Lower Grade certificate in physical education.	35—1—50	45—2—75
Grade III—Others.	30—1—50	40—1—60
(ii) *Hindustani teachers.*		
If secondary grade trained.	40—1½—70	50—2—90
Others ..	30—1—50	40—1½—70

(d) Under paragraph 7 of G.O. No. 975, Education, dated 10th M[ay] 1947, three classes of Pandits and Munshis can be employed in Secondary schools under local bodies. The question of regrouping the posts of Pandits and Munshis is under separate

consideration. Pandits and Munshis in the lower category will be in charge of forms I to III of Secondary Schools while those in the higher category will be in charge of forms IV to VI. It may sometimes happen that a Pandit or a Munshi in a lower category may have to be assigned work in the higher forms. The question whether an additional remuneration should be given to these Pandits is under consideration. Orders will be issued in these points in due course.

(iv) *Secondary and training schools under private managements.*—In paragraph 8 of G.O. No. 975, Education, dated 10th May 1947 the Government have advised the managements to introduce the scales of pay fixed for teachers in secondary schools under local bodies. With a view to enable the managements to find the funds required for meeting the extra cost involved, the Government have decided to raise the basis of assessment of teaching grants from one half to two-third of the approved net cost. In view of this, the Government insist on all managements of aided schools to introduce at least the scales of pay fixed for teachers in schools under local bodies. These arrangements will take effect from 1st June 1947; for the period between 1st January 1947 and 31st May 1947, the instructions in G.O. No. 975, Education, dated 10th May 1947 will apply.

(v) *Government schools.*—Orders will issue separately in the Finance Department in regard to the revision of pay of physical training instructors, and Hindustani teachers based with reference to the revision approved in paragraph (iii) (*c*) above for similar classes of teachers in schools under local bodies. Orders will also issue in that department regarding the revision of the scales of pay taking into account the craft allowance of Rs. 5 admissible to teachers in Government schools.

It is expected that within two years they will learn one of the crafts prescribed by the Department.

Justice Done to Regional Languages

Achievements of Education Department in June, 1947

University education.—The Government have sanctioned the introduction of Tamil under part III of the B.A. course in the Government College, Kumbakonam, Telugu in the Government Arts College, Rajahmundry, Kannada in the Government Arts College, Anantapur, and Malayalam in the Government Victoria College, Palghat. Provision has also been made for instruction in "Methods of teaching in Telugu" in the Government Training College, Rajahmundry, and for "Music" in the Lady Willingdon Training College, Madras.

Secondary education.—Rule 33 of the Madras Educational Rules has been amended restricting the admission of boys in Secondary Schools for girls.

Stipends increased—The Government have ordered that with effect from the School year 1947–48 the rates of stipends payable to students admitted to the course of training for Manual Training Instructors and Art Masters in the Teachers' College, Saidapet, be increased from Rs. 12 to Rs. 18 per mensem. The orders will be in force so long as the candidates undergoing Secondary grade training are paid stipends at the rate of Rs. 18 per mensem.

Basic education.—A meeting of the Advisory Board for Basic Education was held on 24th May 1947 at Fort St. George. The Board, among other matters considered the question of introducing Basic Education in the Schools in and around the belt area of the Basic Training Schools, Periyanayakanpalayam, and the question of opening more Basic Training Schools during the year 1947–48.

Miscellaneous.—The Government have amended rule 12 of the Madras Educational Rules so as to provide for the representation of Headmasters and members of the staff on the managing Committees of their schools.

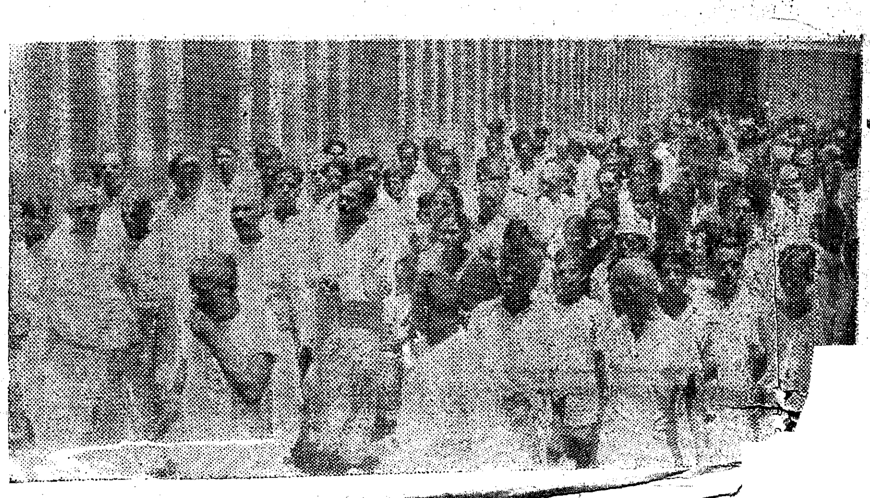
Provision has also been made for the formation of a staff council.

Harijans Enter Thirupathi Temple

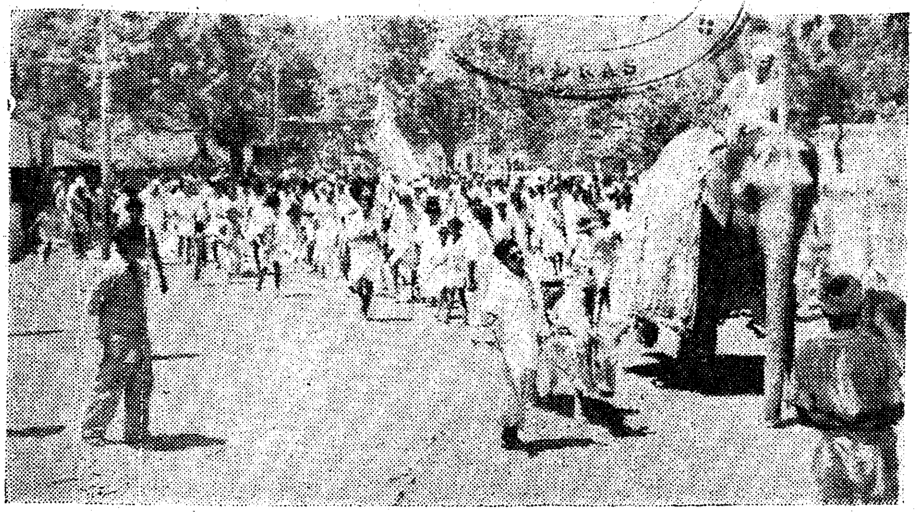
A Historic Occasion

Let custom learn to follow the time,
Or it may be left behind the Prime,
The current goes, and waits for none,
The pools remain in stagnation.

Sunday, 15th June 1947, is a historic day in the annals of Madras. It opened a new and bright chapter in the history of Hinduism. It gave the long-needed impetus to the stagnated spirit of Hinduism and revived its life-current. It opened, along with the steel doors of the Temple of Sri Venkateswar of Thirupati, the eyes of both the caste and non-caste Hindus [illegible] realistic sense of justice. And it [illegible] the Harijan community which [illegible] for centuries the victim of [illegible] ill-treatment, slavery [illegible] status to live up to, a [illegible] dependency and a



[illegible] day dawned on the Tirumalai [illegible]lls. The procession of [illegible]



Harijans go in a procession to the temple

the heart of the town of Tirupathi, for the Hills. It included people of all castes and creeds, the majority being Harijans. At the head of the procession was Sri B. S. Murthy with a band of Harijan devotees chanting the name of Lord Venkateswara. In front of the procession were walking the mighty elephants dignified and decorated.

Among those who were in the forefront of the procession was the Hon'ble the Premier, Sri Omandur P. Ramaswamy Reddiar, walking solemnly with his usual smile.

Beside him were Sri Sivashanmugam Pillai, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Sri V. I. Muniswamy Pillai, Ex-Minister, Sri K. Venkataswamy Naidu, and a number of Harijan M.L.A.s and other prominent leaders from all over the province. The Hon'ble Sri V. Kurmayya joined the procession afterwards.

The Tirumalai Hill, where the Lord is enthroned and enshrined, is at the top of seven hills and is about 2,700 feet high above the sea level. We have to traverse a distance of about seven miles ascending all the seven hills some of which are so steep that one has to go up almost vertically.

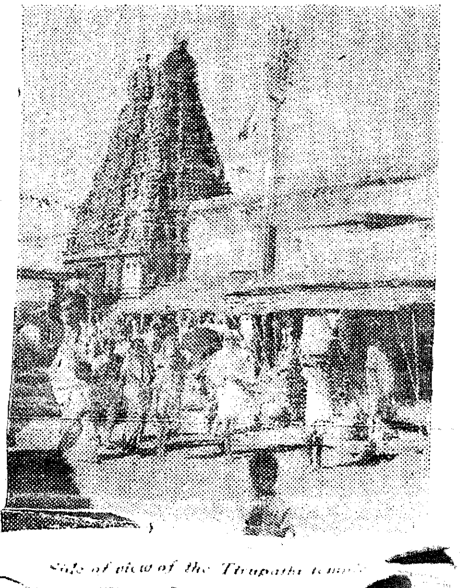
It is stated that the hills were surveyed and the path was laid with stone steps and the domes were built along the path here and there for people to take rest in the 16th century under the instructions of *Sri Krishna Deva-* ... *d* as if to prove it, every stone ... there talks to us in Telugu ... letters.

schools ... in ...

... *after a six-hour struggle* ... with nature) ... themselves com-

the place earlier by buses and motor cars covering a round-about zig-zag road of about 14 miles, met us. Thousands of Harijans and people of other castes thronged at the Temple gates. Sri B. S. Murthy addressed the gathering thanking the public and the Premier for the great and noble act of throwing open the Temple, which commands the highest faith of the Hindus of the whole country, to the Harijans and praising Lord Venkateswara for taking into His embrace the oppressed and outcast, the forgotten and forlorn ones.

Then led by the Premier we entered the premier Temple and saw the Lord and worshipped Him, the God on the Hills, whom we can call the God of Gold, as the Temple and His image are swathed in gold and shine resplendently as only gold does.



Side view of the Tirupathi temple

SOCIAL LIBERATION OF HARIJANS

Two Measures of Madras Government.

The Government of Madras have done away with the age-old disabilities of the Harijans through the enactment of (*i*) *The Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act*, 1947, and (*ii*) *The Madras Removal of Disabilities (Amendment) Act*, 1947.

Temple Entry Authorization Act

Under this Act any Harijan can enter any temple in the province intended as a place of public religious worship and worship as any other Hindu. If anybody puts obstruction in his way he will be liable to punishment with fine in the first instance and for the second or subsequent offences with fine or imprisonment or both.

Removal of Disabilities Act

The Act gives freedom for the unfettered movement of Harijans. They can go to and demand to be served at any place of public resort like Refreshment Rooms, Restaurants, Eating Houses, Boarding Houses, Entertainment or Amusement places and the like. If the owner of these places or anyone else refuses them admittance or obstructs their entry into to those places, he will be making himself liable to punishment with a fine up to Rs. 50 in the case of the first offence and for the second and subsequent offence with imprisonment which may extend to six months or with fine up to Rs. 1,000 or with both. The offences under this Act are cognizable, i.e., action will be taken by the Government themselves.

The Madras Government have recently placed on the Statute Bo... two important enactments which ha... the effect of placing the Harijans ... other excluded classes of Hindu So... on a footing of equality with ...dary sections of the Hindu ... The ... viz., ... Madras ... the posts of Authorization Act of ... under separate ... on June ...

the Civil Disabilities Removal Amendment Bill, which has been passed by both the Houses of the Madras Legislature and will come into effect very soon.

The various disabilities under which the Harijans suffer are admittedly a stain on India's fair name. Writers have described Harijans and those commonly denominated as "Untouchables" as the "submerged tenth." Though part and parcel of the Hindu community this considerable section of the population have, on the negative side, been denied some of the civic, religious and economic privileges enjoyed by other sections of the Hindus and on the positive side are subject to various disabilities, mainly social and economic.

It has been said that no nation whose womenfolk are backward is likely to thrive or make its mark in the present-day-world. On this analogy it must be agreed, too, that if considerable sections of a country's population are subject to disabilities with regard to the exercise of some of the elementary rights which their fellowmen enjoy it will be a serious impediment to the rapid and orderly progress of that country.

A caste ridden society in the modern world is a sociological anomaly. The caste system among Hindus based on a division of functions and occupations may have had its own merits in ancient times. But at no period could anyone justify the denial or forfeiture of the rights and privileges of a particular class or classes of people because they belong to a particular caste. Enlightened Indian opinion has always been in favour of the removal of social disabilities. Even in the first decade of this century the late Mr. Gopala Krishna Gokale said that by preserving untouchability, which is the highest form of social disability imposed on a particular section of the Indian community, Indians were making themselves untouchable to other nations. The Congress from its early days and especially after Gandhiji assumed its leadership has had, as one of the important items of its programme, the levelling up of the Harijans politically, economically and socially. As a result public opinion has in recent decades been completely roused in the matter and the ground cleared for legislation to put an end to the social and civil disabilities associated with untouchability.

The Madras Government have not ... slow to read the signs of the times. ...asures of social legislation ... above which they recently ... achievemen... whose significance and value cannot be underestimated.

The principal provisions of these two measures may be briefly summarized here. First as regards the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act, 1947 :

(1) It enables all persons belonging to the excluded classes to enter into a Hindu temple and offer worship therein in the same manner and to the same extent as all other sections of the Hindus ;

(2) such a right to enter temples will also include the right to bathe in or use the waters of any sacred tank, spring or water-course attached to the temple whether constituted within or outside the precincts thereof as well as a right of passage over any sacred place including a hill or hillock or a road, street, or pathway which is necessary for obtaining access to the temple ;

(3) It provides suitable penalties for those who hinder the operation of this law. Whoever prevents a person belonging to any of the excluded classes from exercising any right conferred by the Act or molests or obstructs any person in the exercise of any such right will be punished, in the case of the first offence, with a fine which may extend to Rs. 100 and in the case of the second or subsequent offence with imprisonment which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to Rs. 500, or with both.

Removal of Civil Disabilities.

The following are the main provisions of the second enactment, viz., the Removal of the Civil Disabilities Amendment Bill of 1947 :—

(1) It amends the "Removal of Civil Disabilities Act" of 1938 in order to make it more comprehensive and effective. It provides that no person who owns or is in charge of any "secular institution" shall impose or cause to be imposed any restriction on any person belonging to any community or class coming under "excluded classes." It also prevents any person from doing or omitting to do anything or from causing or suffering to be done or omit to be done anything which will result in discrimination against any person belonging to any such class.

"Secular institutions" are defined by the Act as inclusive of refreshment rooms, restaurants, cafes, coffee-houses, eating houses, boarding houses, lodging houses, hostels, hotels, or places where persons are provided with food, drink, shelter or sleeping accommodation. They also include places of public entertainment and ... where goods ... shavin... saloon or any place where services are rendered to customers as well as places used for the burial, cremation or disposal otherwise of the dead ;

(2) For the infringement of this law, the penalty provided is fine which may extend to Rs. 50 in the case of the first offence and in the case of the second and subsequent offences, imprisonment which may extend to six months or fine which may extend to Rs. 1,000 or both. All offences under this Act are treated as cognizable.

The effect of this enactment is that it becomes an offence for anyone to prevent Harijans from entering into any public place or institution merely because they are Harijans, or prevent them from receiving in these places and institutions the same attention as members of other communities receive. Any attempt to prevent the entry of Harijans into the various public places mentioned above will render the person concerned liable to prosecution and punishment.

The two measures of legislation taken to gether constitute a momentous step in the removal of an age-long black-spot in the social structure of this province. They are of special significance at this juncture when India is on the threshold of independence and when a democratic form of Government for the country has become a certainty. Democracy needs for its successful working a society not disintegrated by differences on the score of caste, colour or creed, which impede its homogeneity and capacity for united action. History has taught us that only where a more or less uniform level of society exists democracy can work successfully. India should learn this lesson and regularize her uneven social structure so that democracy may have a successful run in this country. To this end the two measures of legislation referred to are designed to make a signal contribution.

But laws alone cannot remove the longstanding and traditionally held ideas in regard to social matters. The poet has rightly said that Kings or Laws can cure only very few ailments which human society is heir to. The co-operation of the people as a whole is all-important. If the objectives which these enactments are intended to achieve are to be achieved this co-operation must be forth... abundant measure. It ... duty of every one of u... co-operation. ...

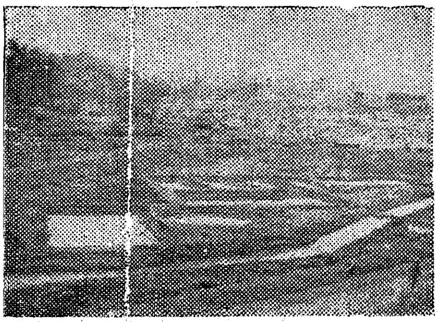
The Wilson Fish Farm, Ootacamund

An extensive, well laid out fish-farm for the culture of different varieties of indigenous and exotic fishes for supply to private fish-farmers, has been established at Ootacamund. It is almost the first thing that attracts the attention of the visitor reaching Ootacamund by road or rail. Situated close to the railway station and adjoining the Hobart Park, and within view of the heart of the town, this farm-garden serves as an evening resort to the public and a demonstration centre at the same time for popularising fish culture among them. To those who have seen the place two years ago, the sudden transformation of a dirty area into a productive beauty spot would be a pleasant surprise.

The Ootacamund lake, which supplies fresh fish to the town, is intensively stocked with quick growing fish from this farm for increasing its output. Small quantities of fresh fish are now also marketed at the farm every day.

The farm consists of a row of nursery ponds for growing fishlings and a set of adult and breeding ponds for the larger fish. The Mirror Carp, the Golden Carp and the Tench are the fish now cultured. Of these, the first variety is specially recommended for the cold upland waters on account of its taste, large size, hardy nature, high fecundity and quick growth.

The farm has been named after the late H. C. Wilson, who as Piscicultural Expert to the Government of Madras, did pioneer work in developing the inland fisheries of the province, particularly in the Nilgiris. It is in the charge of the Fishery Research Officer, Fishdale, Ootacamund, who would supply seed and give all possible help and advice to prospective fish farmers.



A view of the Fish Ponds.

Inauguration of the farm by Mr. A. Khaleeli, I.C.S.

Groundnut

Groundnut is one of the money crops of this province. Normally, about 3·74 million acres of land are cultivated with this crop each year. The total yield is estimated at about 13 lakhs of tons in a normal year. There are two varieties. The first is the main dry crop which will be harvested between October and November. The variety gives about 97 per cent of the total yield. The second variety is the irrigated summer crop which is harvested between June and July. It accounts for only three per cent of the total yield.

Groundnut is used in this province for many purposes : [illegible] is used for consumption [illegible] elementary food ; its oil is [illegible] for cooking purposes ; and [illegible] both as manure and [illegible] consump- [illegible]

About a lakh and a half tons of kernel is reserved for seed purposes. After meeting all the local requirements, a large quantity is being exported to other areas both in India and outside. Prior to 1942, the bulk of the groundnut crop used to be exported as kernels only. In 1943, the Madras Government imposed a ban under the Defence of India Rules on the export of both the kernel and of groundnut cake outside the Madras Presidency. The Government of India agreed to license the export of kernel to places outside India only to the extent that was actually surplus to the local milling capacity. As a result the crushing industry in the province received a great fillip. Between the years 1943 and 1946 the crushing capacity of the province increased by about 50 per cent. In all the districts of the Presidency [illegible]

650 expellers, 1,000 rotaries and 200 power presses, not to speak of country chekkus. Each expeller would require about 1,500 tons of kernel if it is to work throughout the year at the rate of 25 days per month. About 8 to 9 lakhs of tons of kernel at least will be required to keep all the expellers and rotaries and power presses engaged throughout the year. If to this is added the seed requirements of 1½ lakhs of tons the net exportable surplus will amount to only about 2½ lakhs of tons of kernel. If any quantity in excess of this is allowed to be exported, it is likely to affect the crushing industry of the province. In the first week of March 1947, the Government of India removed the control over both the price and movements of kernel as well as oil. As a result, large quantities of kernel are being purchased by the merchants of Bengal and other Northern Indian provinces in our province. Consequently, many of the oil mills in the province have remained idle already.

More important than kernel or oil is the cake. In recent years, the demand for this cake has considerably increased both from the agriculturists and cattle owners. Paddy, sugarcane and other important food crops are believed to yield a much better outturn when fed with this cake. Since 1944, the Agricultural Department has been procuring groundnut cake from the mills and distributing it through departmental depots. In the beginning only 50 per cent of the total production by the power mills was taken over by the Department and the balance was allowed to be sold through licensed dealers. Since 1945-46, the department has begun to procure the entire quantity of groundnut cake produced by the power mills. The quantity of groundnut cake produced in the previous year was found to be not adequate to meet the entire demand. During the current year, there may be a considerable fall in the production of this cake as a result of the outside merchants buying large quantities of kernel in our presidency. Unless its production is stepped up it is likely to result in a reduction of the area cultivated with paddy and also in its yield, thereby prejudicing the Grow-More-Food Campaign and widening the gap between the production and requirements of rice in the province. If this state of affairs is to be remed[illegible] the export of kernel outside the pro[illegible] vince should be strictly regulated. Steps should be taken to [illegible] costs of [illegible] or separate

(Continued on page

to unload the filled bags of rice which are then sewn up and despatched.

These methods have enabled the Australian rice industry to produce a high quality grain cheaply and with a minimum of effort. Sometimes yields of upto 4 tons are harvested from one acre of land, but valuable as this has been to the industry, perhaps its greatest advantage is its unique method of marketing.

Conscious of the need for co-operation and unity in the marketing of their crop, Australian rice growers formed a rice marketing Board which was given authority by the Government to acquire all rice produced. The Board handles the marketing of the crop on behalf of the growers and at the end of the season the total proceeds from the sales at home and for export are paid direct to the growers less only the charges of administration.

This system has worked excellently in Australia and has given growers the maximum return for their production and a stability to their industry which is the envy of producers in other countries.

The grower receives a cash advance immediately his crop is delivered to the Board and he knows that he is certain to receive the full price which his rice will bring in the market.

Australia is also unique in having the largest single rice farm in the world. In 1942 when the main rice exporting countries of Burma, Siam and Indo-China suffered a disruption of their production, Australia was the only exporter in the South East Asia and Pacific areas still able to carry on.

The need for rice was urgent and Australia expanded its acreage by 75 per cent in an all out effort to produce more rice for people in dire need whose source of supply had been cut off.

The boldest step in the plans for increased production was the opening up by the Australian Government of one single rice farm totalling 15,000 acres.

This one farm was laid down in virgin country with the aid of a veritable army of modern earth-mowing equipment which graded the land and threw contour banks in the same way as vast airfields were constructed almost overnight at strategic points during the war.

Rotation was introduced under which one-third of the area was constantly under crop. Without mechanical equipment this feat could never have been achieved, but using no less than 27 mechanical reaper-threshers, only 81 men were needed to harvest 8,000 tons of rice within a few short weeks.

Australia is unique in yet another aspect, in that not one single grain of rice has been consumed by the Australian public since 1942. Australia is therefore the only rice producing country in the world which exports the great bulk of her production.

The only rice which is kept in Australia is a small proportion needed to feed rice-eating people such as Indian seamen, and other Asiatics who may visit Australia from time to time in the course of trade and commerce.

This is a sacrifice which Australia has been more than willing to make in order to do her utmost to relieve the serious distress which rice shortages in Asia and the Pacific Islands have brought to the peoples in those territories.

Although Australia's total production is relatively small compared with the output of other countries, the contribution which Australia has made to the rice needs of deficit countries has played a much more significant part in food strategy than would normally be expected.

In 1943 when Ceylon suffered a food crisis, in the same year when General MacArthur liberated the Phillipines and later when Australian troops moved into the occupied islands of the Pacific, it was Australian rice that enabled the urgent food needs of these territories to be met when supply from no other source was available.

Report of the Group

The labours of the Rice Study Group reached a successful culmination with the adoption of the report of the group.

The report contains ten chapters (1) international co-operation; (2) production trends and potentialities; (3) conservation of available supplies; (4) consumption and nutrition; (5) improvements and expansion of production; (6) improvements in domestic working; (7) price policies; (8) international trade in rice; (9) research and extension; and (10) exchange of information and supplements to the report.

Appendices contain valuable data on current rations including those in Japan Netherlands, Korea and deficit territories in South-East Asia, Sara- south-east area and Malaya, Singapore, of immense value. statistical data.

Mr. Kosiangyin, Leader, Chinese Delegation.

Production Trends

The Group has made ...

possibilities of producing additional rice.

It is estimated that in 1950-51, Burma will have a surplus of 2·75 metric tons of rice and rice products, French Indo-China ·75, Siam, one million, whil India will be deficit by 2·5 millions.

The Group holds that in the coun tries where critical labour shortage are in existence, the problem migh be solved by partial or complete mech nization in relation to farm econom

The countries represented o Group were agreed upon the p that the cultivator of the la receive his rightful share o from land, that coun shou to attain condition dings would be that alternate oc provided to

Felix D. Maramba, Leader, Phillipine Delegation.

Now I may give you a short description of the main crops grown in Indonesia. The most important crop is rice. In Javac rice is mostly grown on irrigated fields. About 90 per cent of the rice fields in Java are irrigated. On the other islands rice growing on non-irrigated fields the so-called upland rice is more predominant. In many thinly populated areas of these islands the land is not permanent in use; after 2 or 3 crops the fields are abandoned for a period of let us say 6 or more years and other fields are cleared and brought into cultivation.

Other important foodcrops in Indonesia are maize, tapioca, sweet potatoes, soyabeans and groundnuts.

Just before the war, the food situation in Indonesia was fairly good and imports of food stuffs from other countries were not necessary. As a result of the Japanese occupation, the production of foodstuffs and all other agricultural commodities has suffered a great deal. In order to obtain an adequate diet, import of foreign rice is needed at the present moment.

Besides foodcrops, Indonesia produces a great number of cash crops, e.g., rubber, sugar, copra, coffee, tea and tobacco. Part of these cash crops are produced by the Indonesian small armers, part by estates. Rubber, the main cash crop at the present moment, luced for one half by the small s, for the other half by estates. is entirely produced by small sugar mostly by estates.

Pro[illegible]uction in China

[illegible] Ko, M.S., Ph.D., [illegible] China [illegible]

To-day, China is recognized as the largest producer of rice in the world. She produces about 35 per cent of the world's rice crop which is compared with 27 per cent by India.

In Central and South-eastern part of China, to grow rice is a common practice; every farmer has his little rice-plot; almost every school child is familiar with the picture of rice culture. The entire family of the Chinese farmer helps to sow, irrigate, transplant, weed, harvest and thresh the rice.

In China, the rice harvest is the time of community celebration and religious ceremonies. The rice is often a medium of exchange in payment of taxes and wages. A wooden pump is used to lift the water from the streams and water reservoirs to the rice fields. In certain areas where electricity is available, pumps operated by electric motor are being used for irrigation purpose. The farm manure and soyabean and rape seed crackers are extensively used by the farmers to feed the growing crop. The using of artificial fertilizers is not so common in rice farms. Weeds are the troublesome pest of rice field, the only effective method in controlling is by picking out, by hand or hoe. The rice is cut by hand with sickle, and the grain is removed from the stalk on a threshing barrel. It is then dried under sunlight for several days and cleaned by the fanning blower. Finally the rice is handled either in bulk or in bag to the warehouse for storage.

Immediately after the harvest of rice, the stubble land is then ploughed for the planting of winter-crop. The farmers in certain section usually grow two rice crops in a year instead of one cropping. Furthermore, one may be interested to know that rice can also harvest two crops from one planting if sufficient water is flooded in the field after the first harvest. It is the so-called regenerated rice or "ratoon rice."

The final product of rice-mill is called white rice. It is washed in cold water to remove the fine dust when it is ready to cook. The rinsed rice is then immersed in three parts of water and cooked in an iron pot until it is boiled. A part of the boiler water is then discarded and the half-cooked rice is steamed to a state [illegible]

[illegible] dency [illegible] the Presi-

Production Methods in Australia

W. F. Prehn, Australian Delegate.

One of the most interesting aspects of the rice growing industry in Australia is the apparently contradictory fact that while it is one of the youngest in the world it is at the same time, probably the most efficient found in any country.

First of all the whole of the operations associated with the planting and harvesting of the crop are carried out mechanically. Large modern machines drawn by tractors move over the rice fields with a speed and efficiency reminescent of the methods used in the huge wheat growing areas of Canada, United States America and Australia.

Multiple ploughs turning 10 furrows at a time make short work of cultivation. When the land is ready combine seed drills 15 feet wide which mechanically deposit the seed and the fertilizer beneath the surface of the soil and cover it over again, sow large areas with perfect precision.

Controlled irrigation allows the farmer to flood the land after sowing and then immediately drain it.

When the rice is about 6 inches high, the land is flooded again and the water held at a depth of about 10 inches until the rice matures.

When ready for harvest, the land is again drained and the mechanized harvester is brought in.

This wonderful machine reaps the crop, threshes and winnows it and then loads the rice into bags, all in one operation as it moves over the rice field.

Drawn by a tractor the operation is continuous except for short stops

[illegible] regulat[illegible] [illegible] be taken to [illegible]

(Continued on page [illegible]

Trivandrum, has already made great progress in its preliminary work of settling the programme and setting out the main topics, on which recommendations have to be made and data collected for presentation to the main conference.

Three main committees have been set up for this purpose—

Committee (I) deals with all questions connected with expansion of production.

Committee (II) deals with marketing, development of storage facilities, transportation, marketing intelligence including crop forecasting and estimating.

Committee (III) deals with wider international marketing and distribution of rice.

The recommendations of the Study Group will be forwarded to the Director General of the F.A.O. and will be considered later by the Main Conference.

Rice Distribution

Harry G. Clowes, F.A.O. Secretary, Rice Committee, of the I.E.F.C.

As you all know, many of the troubles in Asia to-day can be traced to the shortage of rice, the staple food of the Orient's millions of people. This year, according to the recent announcement of 1947 allocations rice-consuming areas are receiving less than one-third of the amount of rice that was shipped to them before the war. With the political disturbances in French Indo-China practically eliminating rice exports from that formerly important exporter, the outlook now is darker than ever.

Wage structure and the costs of services and commodities throughout the Far East are upset and inflated to-day because of the average person in Asia cannot get sufficient rice to live on. Thus the rice famine virtually affects the life of every man, woman and child in Asia.

Before the war, normal rice exports came to about 7·0 million tons annually. During 1947, they will approximate 2·0 million tons. Meanwhile, during the war years, the population of India alone, according to estimates by official bodies, increased from 389 millions in 1941 to 427 millions in 1946. Populations of other Asiatic countries also have increased accordingly. Even with these extra mouths to feed, the acreage of rice has not increased in Asia largely because of neglect caused by other demands of the war.

With facts like these, before them, the Committee on Rice of the International Emergency Food Council, was convened in Washington about a month ago to recommend an allocation for the calendar year 1947.

After considerable discussion, the recommended allocation was mutually agreed. Under this recommendation India was allocated 485·0 thousand metric tons of rice.

The procedure followed by the committee on rice is not similar to the division of cereals other than rice, such as maize, rye, etc. The I.E.F.C. cereals committee does not recommend allocations but rather a quarterly shipping schedule, the quantities allotted to each country being determined by the actual quantity available for shipping from the four major cereal exporters: Australia, Argentine, Canada and the United States.

Other commodity committees of I.E.F.C. are also functioning effectively in their fields. Many problems of distribution are faced by the committees on fertilizer, the committee on facts and oils, the committee on sugar, etc. It is only by the full co-operation of each member nation that effective distribution of vital food stuffs can be obtained. The I.E.F.C. is an emergency organization set up to deal with the present disaster. Let us hope that the Emergency will soon cease and the people of Asia will be able to find enough food to sustain themselves. That will mean continued maximum production of food by each nation. It must be done.

Agriculture in Indonesia

J. Vander Ploeg, Leader, Netherlands Delegation

Mr. J. Vander Ploeg Netherlands (Leader)

per cent of the population is engaged directly or indirectly in agriculture. Java, notwithstanding its rather small geographical area, must be considered as the main island. On this island which is not yet twice as large as Ceylon about 50 millions of people are living. This is the most densely populated agrarian country in the world, as it has a population-density of 940 per square mile.

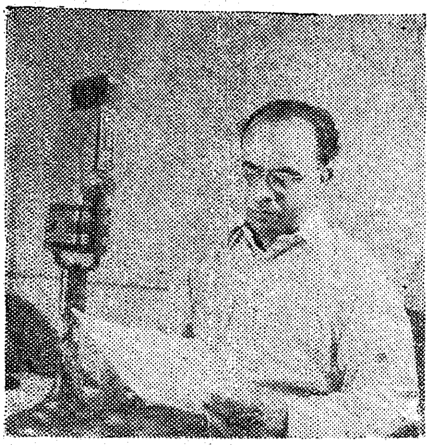
The main reason is that Java has a very fertile soil, whilst the conditions of the rivers are favourable for irrigation, so that the land is very suitable for rice growing. So in ancient times when people from foreign countries like India came over to settle down in Indonesia, Java had a great perference comparing with other islands.

Now on account of the dense population in Java the acreage per farmer is very small, being only a little bit more than 2 acres per farmer. In accordance with that the family income of the average Javanese farmer is rather low; the government has tried to improve the standards of living of the farmers by application of more modern methods of agriculture, like the use of high-producing varieties, improvement of irrigation, use o[f] fertilisers and green manure use [o]f better farm implements, etc. All the[se] methods have given very good resul[ts]

In many regions of the ou[ter] provinces conditions are better than Java. Many people want to emig[rate] from Java to the other island[s of] Indonesia. This movement is spo[nsor]ed by the Government. [A] method for improving the si[tuation] on Java is the introduct[ion] in the island in ord[er] surplus labour fr[om]

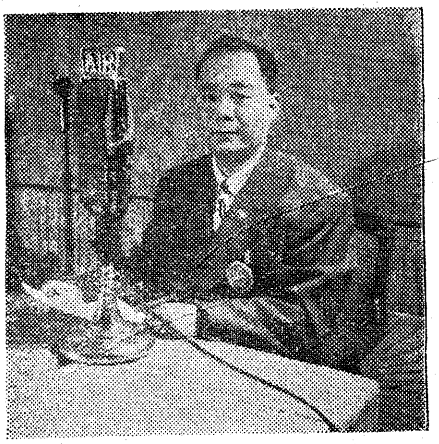
World Plan to Tackle the Rice Problem

[The Rice Study Group, set up by the F.A O. met recently at Trivandrum. Given below are extracts from the broadcasts (A.I.R. Madras) by the leaders of the delegations from the various countries.]

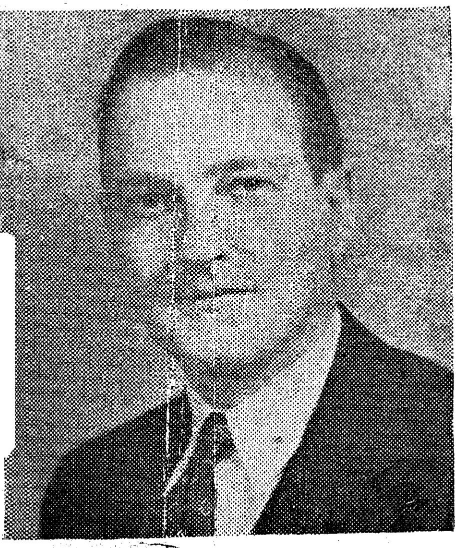


Mr. S. Y. Krishnaswami, O.B.E., I.C.S., Chairman, Rice Study Group.

Dr. W. M. Clyde, Leader, U.K. Delegation to the Rice Study Group.



Dr. T. H. Cheng, U.N.O.



Mr. Harold A. Vogel, Secretary General, F.A.O.

The Problem

Dr. W. H. Clyde, Leader U. K. Delegation.

:he Rice Study Group, set up by ‥ Food and Agriculture Organization ‥he United Nations, is, as its title ‥ies, a group of people whose object ‥o study the world Rice situation; ‥arly what the present situation ‥hat the prospects are. And ‥come from all parts of the ‥andrum to study the ‥together.

‥about the urgency ‥any of the rice- ‥example

the rice ration is only 4½ ozs. a day, compared with a pre-war consumption of from 16 to 18 ozs. per head daily. For the greater part of the second-half of last year, Malaya's rice ration was only 2½ ozs. Hong Kong for the past year has maintained a ration of only 5 ozs. Borneo and Sarwak, 2 ozs. now 4½ ozs. Ceylon, which before the war consumed nearly 13 ozs. per head daily, has not always been able to maintain even her present low ration of 4½ ozs. a day.

There can be no doubt, as I have said, about the urgency of the problems facing us. And our object is to help each other, to the utmost of our ability.

World Co-operation Necessary

Dr. Tien-Hsi Cheng, UNO Representative and Economic Affairs Officer, New York.

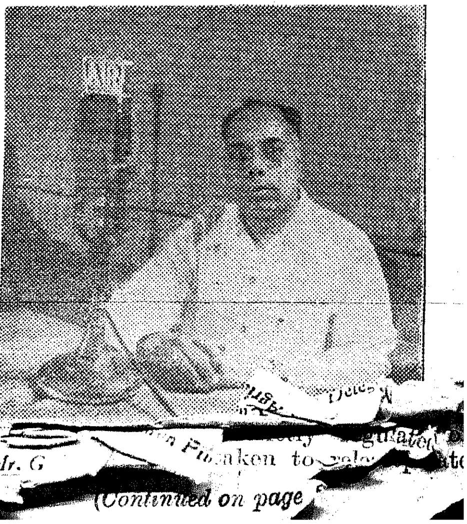
On the basis of the *World Food Survey* made by the Food and Agriculture Organization, half of the population of the world lives on a diet of less than 2,250 calories per day and a great majority of these p ople belong to the rice-consuming regions. Their diet not only lacks protective foods but even energy foods. In order to raise the standard of nutrition in the Orient, ‥ should be ta.en to expand the production of rice, improve marketing and distribution and stimulate international ‥de.

Isolationism is ‥ ‥ernational problem, like that of rice, must be tackled by the concerted action of all nations concerned. The fact of my coming here is indicative of the interest and concern on the part of the United Nations with reference to the rice problem which plays such a vital part in the economic life of the people of Asia and the Far East. In the interest of peace and welfare of Asia and of the whole world, I earnestly hope that we shall soon find a logical solution to the rice problem.

The Work of the Committees

G. Parameswaran Pillai, Member representing Travancore and other Indian States.

The International Conference of the Rice Study Group which has met at



Mr. G ‥

‥ taken to ‥

(Continued on page ‥

countries in Asia to meet the bona fide needs of the cultivators.

The Group reviewed the subject of domestic marketing in South-East Asia and recommended specific suggestions in this regard. As a first step towards securing fair price to the producer it asks every country concerned to introduce and establish standard weights and measures and that each country should report its statistics of production and international trade in metric tons and hectares respectively for use in international statistics.

World Needs

World requirements of rice in 1952 will be in the neighbourhood of ten million tons as against exportable surplus of 6·7 million tons in 1954. The gap between supply and demand will exceed three million tons in seven years' time and international action should concentrate on wiping out this deficit.

On the question of the conversion of available supplies, the Conference recommended that with a view to saving as much rice as possible from storage depreciation and infestation, rice should be stored in the form of well-dried paddy and a large percentage of rice-supply should be parboiled since it keeps in good condition for long periods and that consumption of parboiled rice should be encouraged as it has distinct advantanges over lightly milled or hand-pounded rice.

Steps should also be taken to prevent losses in transportation and distribution and smuggling of short rice supplies.

Under the head 'Consumption and Nutrition' the conference recommended *inter alia* that the F.A.O. should call an urgent meeting of the nutritional experts who have specialised in rice to initiate studies to determine the comparative values of different types of rice and to recommend the most [illegible]itable method of conserving and [illegible]hancing the value of rice. The [illegible].A.O. and member Governments [illegible]ould also study the effect that the [illegible]tary changes brought about by [illegible] scarcity of rice may have upon the [illegible]re demand for rice.

[illegible]scussing the improvements and [illegible] of production, the Con[illegible] urged the Governments to [illegible] on irrigation and drainage [illegible] recommended to the [illegible] Emergency Food Council [illegible]her allocations of nitrogenous [illegible] intended for rice production in South-East Asia should consist of sulphate of ammonia in preference to other forms of chemical nitrogen.

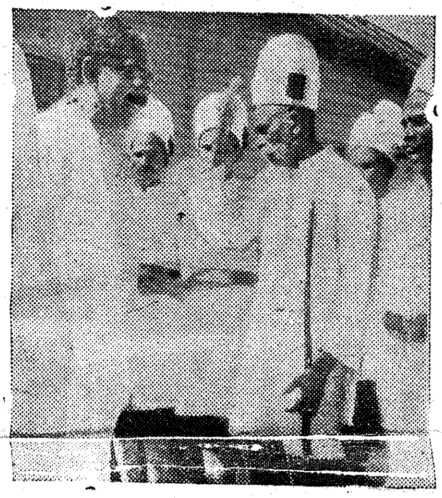
After discussing the subject of international price agreement the conference agreed that it was highly desirable to achieve stability in international rice prices as soon as possible.

Turning to the question of international trade in rice, the Conference holds that rice will continue to be in acute short supply for a number of years and, therefore, the continuation of a system of international allocation will be necessary. Principles on which rice allocations are made at the present are regarded as satisfactory.

(*Continued from page* 22)

export outside the province only the net exportable surplus of the kernel.

The price of oilcake is rigidly controlled in the Madras Presidency. The control rate is Rs. 85 per ton in the milling centres of the northern districts. In the other provinces its price is not controlled. In Bengal, e.g., the price of groundnut cake is nearly Rs. 200 per ton. It is for this reason that the Calcutta merchants buy our kernel at a considerably higher rate than what is offered by our own merchants. They prefer buying our kernel instead of buying our oil although our oil is available at a cheaper rate. It is apprehended that for the coming year's paddy crop sufficient quantity of oilcake may not be available unless the export of kernel outside the province is prevented except to the extent of the net exportable surplus.



During his recent visit to Vellore Jail, a convict warder requested the Hon'ble Minister for Prisons to set him free. In the picture the warder is opologising for his former misconduct

Food Situation in the Province

Report for the second fortnight of May

Weather conditions and crop prospects.—Rainfall during the fortnight was light to moderate. Water-supply for agricultural purposes was generally sufficient.

II. *Market conditions and trend of prices.*—There was no perceptible change in the prices of cereals. The prices of pulses (grams and dhalls) were generally on the rise. There was an increase of as much as 28·6 per cent in the price of redgram dhal, which was mainly due to paucity of imports. There were also slight increases, in the prices of blackgram dhal and bengalgram. The position regarding the prices of oils, oilseeds, oil cakes, etc., was as follows :—

No change—Copra, coconut oil and groundnut oil cake.

Rise—Groundnut (shelled) (2·2 per cent), gingelly seed (0·4 per cent), gingelly oil (1·1 per cent), groundnut oil (2·8 per cent) and gingelly oil cake (2·9 per cent).

Fall—Cotton seed (0·6 per cent).

Procurement.—The following statements show the quantities of foodgrains procured in the districts and those received from sources outside the Province.

(*a*) *Local procurement during the fortnight ending* 15*th May* 1947—

	TONS.	
Paddy.	54,814	Together equivalent to 58,498 tons in terms of rice.
Rice ..	17,839	
Millets.	5,928	

(*b*) *Receipts from other Provinces and States during the fortnight ending* 31*st May* 1947—

	TONS.
Rice	2,838
Millets	295
Wheat	Nil.
Wheat products ..	
Pulses—	
Blackgram	1,116
Redgram	204
Greengram	843
Bengalgram	2,221
Total Pulses ..	4,384

(c) *Imports from overseas* [illegible] *the fortnight ending* 31*st May.*

Rice	
Millets	
Wheat and wheat products.	

(This includes 3,500 tons towards replacement of supplies to be made to Defence Services).

Stock and supply position in the Province.—Rice.—The stock of rice in the Province on 29th May 1947 was 240,289 tons as against 242,348 tons on 15th May 1947. The improvement in the procurement of rice, which has been noticeable since the Producers-Cum-Consumers Co-op.ratative Societies were replaced by millers in the circar. continues, as will be seen from the following figures :—

Procurement in fortnight ending—		TONS.
15th April 1947	..	60,682
30th April 1947	..	50,309
15th May 1947	..	58,498
29th May 1947	..	70,554

The stock position of rice in many districts continues to be unsatisfactory. The stock position is now worst in Coimbatore district where the rural areas continue to be on an 8 oz. ration and which has a stock sufficient for only about a week. The stock position has improved slightly in Malabar which by the end of the month had a stock of nearly 19,000 tons of rice, i.e., sufficient for about three weeks. Priority in movement has been given to Malabar so that the district may be able to build up adequate stocks before the monsoon and with a view to raising the rice ration to 10 oz. from 8th June 1947, in those areas where it is still 8 oz. There was a noticeable improvement particularly towards the end of the fortnight in the movement of supplies from the Northern surplus areas.

Millets.—During the fortnight the second ship load of 1,200 tons of American milo was received at Madras. The third shipload against the 8,000 tons May allotment is expected early in June. 294 tons of ragi was also received from Orissa and further quantities of ragi and cholam are shortly expected. 4,338 tons of millets were procured in the second fortnight of May as compared with 4,092 tons in the first fortnight. The stock of millets increased from 21,683 tons on the 15th to 23,203 tons on 29th. The stock position has improved substantially in Guntur, [illegible]llore and the Nilgiris, but has become [illegible]er worse in Coimbatore.

[illegible]*aize.*—Stocks fell from 4,697 tons [illegible]3,53[illegible] tons during the fortnight. [illegible]ports for Central Provinces have [illegible]opped. The off-take of maize [illegible]tinues to be maintained at a satisfactory level and it is anticipated that the entire stocks which are now several months old will be disposed of by the end of July.

Wheat.—Stocks of wheat decreased from 4,042 tons to 3,371 tons. No imports of wheat are expected before August. By carrying out a number of small inter-district transfers it is hoped that all districts will have supplies for the habitual consumers at least for another month. But it is feared that most districts will have consumed their entire stocks by the end of July.

Wheat products.—Wheat flour stocks dropped from 1,774 tons on 15th May 1947 to 1,378 tons on 29th May 1947. The off-take was 712 tons in April but should decrease consequent upon the reduction in the size of the bread ration and the reduced issues to vermicelli manufacturers, confectioneries and non-meals hotels. Unless further supplies are received shortly, it is feared that bread rationing will begin to break down in a number of districts in July.

Barley.—Stocks decreased from 751 tons to 669 tons. The rate of disposal continues to be satisfactory.

Pulses.—During the fortnight the s.s. Pentakota, carrying 960 tons of Sind gram and products arrived in Cochin. 1,159 tons of Bengalgram and products were also received by rail from Bikaner. Substantial quantities of blackgram were received by rail from Akalkot and Hyderabad. The s.s. Shazada, carrying 383 tons of Bengalgram and the s.s. Jalamany carrying 1,803 tons of Bengalgram are expected at Madras and Cochin respectively during the first fortnight of June. The import of the 1946-47 Rabi Plan Bangalgram quotas from Punjab, Sind, Bahawalpur and Rajput states have not yet commenced to move. The stocks of pulses in the district is generally satisfactory apart from shortages of redgram in several districts.

Rationing.—On account of the general shortage of cereals in the Province the overall ration to an adult per day has been reduced from 12 oz. to 10 oz. from 25th May 1947. The unit value of the scale of ration has consequently fallen from 6 oz. to 5 oz. The rice content of the ration in the rural areas of Malabar and Coimbatore districts has however been kept at 8 oz. in view of the low stock position in those districts.

Consequent on the reduction of the unit value of the scale of ration, the unit value of bread and the scale and composition of the quota to establishments, landholders, etc., have undergone the following alterations.

Bread.—Unit value has been fixed at 6 oz. of bread prepared out of $4\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of maida. (The Collectors have been instructed to refix the price of bread with reference to the reduction in the quantity of maida used).

Quota to meals hotels (Catering Establishments)—*Scale.*—5 oz. per meal per person.

Composition.—Rice 4 oz. per meal or 80 per cent of the total quota.

Maize and/or barley.—1 oz. per meal or 20 per cent of the total quota.

Quota to vermicelli factories.—No maida issued till fresh stocks arrive.

Quota to industrial canteens.—Scale—5 oz. per meal.

Composition—For a canteen opened and working before the end of April 1946.—2 oz. of rice plus 3 oz. of maize, maize flour, wheat, wheat flour and/or 4 oz. or $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. bread.

For a canteen opened and working after April 1946 *or to be opened hereafter.*—5 oz. of maize, maize flour, wheat and/or wheat flour or 6 oz. bread.

Extra ration to heavy manual labourers.—Scale.—4 oz. per adult per day.

Composition.—Maize, maize flour and/or barley flour.

Extra ration for midday meal centres—Scale.—Continues to be 4 oz. per child per day. Restrictions on the issue of wheat and wheat products have since been made applicable to these centres also.

Ration to landholders—Scale.—Actual cultivators to retain or import at 1 lb. per adult per day, and non-cultivators at 10 oz. per adult per day.

Quota to biscuit manufacturers and confectioneries—Scale.—Continues to be 50 per cent of the quota allowed prior to the date of when maida was subsidized.

Composition.—Fixed at one-sixth part as maida and the rest (i.e. five-sixth) as maize and/or barley flour.

Quota to non-meals hotels—Composition.—refixed as follows :—

Broken rice (if available)—one-fourth of the quota.

Maize and maize flour—five-twelfths of the quota.

Barley flour—one-fourth of the quota.

Wheat and wheat products (excluding maida)—3 and one-twelfth of the quota.

The taking of 25 per cent quota as maize and 10 per cent as barley flour continues to be compulsory.

Subsidiary foodstuffs—Sugar.—The Government have authorised the Co[illegible]tors of the districts to fix the whol[illegible] and retail prices of sugar within c[illegible] specified limits.

Jaggery.—The Governmen[illegible] removed the ban on the [illegible]

(*Continued on next page*)

Prospectus of the Institute of Leather Technology, Washermanpet, Madras

The Institute of Leather Technology is situated in Kathivakkam High Road, Washermanpet, Madras. It is provided with a laboratory and a Tannery equipped with a variety of power driven tanning machinery.

Object.—The purpose of the Institute is to provide sound training in the Principles and Practices of Modern Leather Manufacture. Provision has been made for tuition not only in the tanning of leather but in all the allied branches of Leather Technology including the manufacture of leather goods.

Course of instruction.—The institute provides for the following three courses at present, i.e., in July 1947 :—

(*a*) A Diploma Course in Leather Technology.

(*b*) A Certificate Course in Leather Goods Manufacture.

(*c*) Artisan Course in Leather Tanning and Leather Goods Manufacture.

Diploma Course in Leather Technology.—This course is of three years duration. This has to be followed up by apprenticeship for one year in a tannery approved by the Director of Industries and Commerce.

Admission shall be made to students who have passed the S.S.L.C. examination or any other equivalent examination with Chemistry as optional subject. Preference will be given to those who are connected with the leather industry. The subjects to be taught are :—

(*a*) Chemistry (Theory and Practical).

(*b*) Introductory Leather Manufacture.

(*c*) Leather Trades Engineering.

(*d*) Elementary Book-keeping.

(*e*) Principles and Processes of Leather Manufacture.

(*f*) Leather Dyeing and Finishing.

(*g*) Analytical Chemistry of Leather Manufacture.

(*h*) *Any one of the following special subjects :—

(i) Leather Goods Manufacture.

(ii) Curing and Preservation of Hides and Skins.

(iii) Tanning Extract Manufacture.

(iv) Manufacturing of Glue from fleshings.

*This is to be taken in the third

...tificate Course in Leather Goods ...facture.—This course is of three ...duration ...

...issions shall be made to students ... passed III Form. Preference ...on to those connected with the leather goods manufacturing or the leather industry.

Training shall be given in the manufacture of leather goods ranging from watch straps to suit cases. Instruction will be given by lectures, demonstrations and practical work.

Session.—The session is divided into two terms.

(i) From the 2nd of July to the 13th December.

(ii) From 3rd January to 30th April.

There will be a vacation for two months, May and June.

Fees.—Diploma Course—Rs. 24 per session.

Certificate Course—Rs. 12 per session.

Caution money.—A sum of Rs. 20 is to be deposited every year by students of the Diploma course in Leather Technology and Rs. 10 by those of the Certificate Course in Leather Goods Manufacture as Caution money against loss or damage or breakages of tools and apparatus given to them for work. The money will be refunded to them at the completion of the course—deducting dues against loss and breakages.

After the apprenticeship, a stipend to the value of Rs. 30 per mensem will be awarded to the students in each class of the Diploma Course in Leather Technology.

Three scholarships of the value of Rs. 20 per mensem will be awarded to the students in each year of the Certificate Course in Leather Goods Manufacture.

Those who apply for the scholarship should produce a "Poverty Certificate" from an official of his district not below the rank of an Assistant Tahsildar, within a month from the date of joining the institute.

Artisan course

This course is of two years duration.

The course will start on the 2nd July 1947. Harijan boys (of the Shoemakers' community) of not less than 14 years of age will be admitted. There will be vacation for two months (May and June). Instruction will be imparted in the vernaculars (Tamil and Telugu). On the successful completion of the course, each student will be given a certificate by the Department.

No restrictions are placed as to the educational qualifications except that he should be able to read and write the vernaculars to follow the course of instruction given. Each student will be paid a stipend of Rs. 25 per month. Arrangements, if required, will be made for the admission of the students as paying boarders in the Slater Hostel, Madras, run by the Department of Labour. Each student will be eligible for Casual Leave for a period of 15 days during the session and a month's leave on medical certificate with pay.

Twelve students will be admitted every year.

Nutrition survey in selected firkas

In G.O. Ms. No. 757, Food, dated 10th September 1946 the Government selected one firka in each district of the presidency except Madras for intensive rural reconstruction work so that the firka when developed might serve as a model for the other firkas in the district to follow. The Nutrition Officer, Food Department has suggested that if a sample diet survey is undertaken in each such firka it would be helpful in collecting basic information about the dietary habits of the people in the firkas and that the information would be useful for the development of the firka on food front. The Government have given a careful consideration to the suggestion and have decided that to start with, a sample survey should be taken up in one firka and the results properly assessed before similar investigation in all the other selected firkas throughout the Province is systematically attempted. Accordingly the sample survey will first be carried out in Vellakoil firka in the Coimbatore District by the Nutrition Officer, Food Department.

(*Continued from page previous*)

palmyrah jaggery from the Tinnevelly district to other districts in the Province.

Chillies.—The Government have removed the restrictions on the export of chillies and products thereof outside the Province.

Salt.—There was scarcity of salt in Ootacamund town which was due to the non-arrival in time of stocks from Tuticorin for want of waggons. The Collector of the Nilgiris has addresse... the Railway authorities for the imm... diate provision of wagon facilities...

Miscellaneous commod...ties.— ... of firewood was reported to b... quate in the towns of ... Coimbatore, and Bezwad... parts of Guntur and Ra...

Scarcity of match... from the districts ... patam, the N...

Madras may not adopt Central Pay Code

Finance Minister Explains Implications

Mr. B. Gopal Reddi, Minister for Finance, in the course of a talk with pressmen on the 7th of June stated that the Madras Government were not likely to implement the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission either in respect of salaries or dearness allowance.

The Minister pointed out that the Cabinet Sub-Committee which went into the question of revision of salaries of the Madras Government servants had clearly stated as follows in their report: "We have attempted to bring our recommendations into line with the recommendations that are likely to be made by the Central Pay Commission. But on the question of fixation of salaries for the servants of the Government we feel that we must be guided primarily by the conditions existing in this Province and by the financial resources of this Government rather than by any recommendations which the Central Pay Commission is likey to make regarding the Central Government servants. We are of opinion therefore that the salaries should now be revised to the cost of living conditions and that there should not be any further revision after the Central Pay Commission's recommendations are known. For any further upward revision will be beyond the financial resources of this Province."

Mr. Gopal Reddi further stated that the recommendations of the Cabinet Sub-Committee were given effect to only from January 1947 and so soon after that a *de-novo* revision of the salaries was very unlikely. "After all, we must allow some time to settle before attempting any further revision" said Mr. Reddi.

Further, the Central Government had not consulted the Provincial Government when appointing the Cen- l Pay Commission nor did the mmission hold any consultations th them while making their recomendations. Therefore, it was not ry on the part of the Provincial nent to adopt the scales ended by the Central Pay Com-

t of Dearness Allowance

g the financial implications vent of accepting the [illegible] of the Central Pay [illegible] respect of the enhance [illegible] allowance, the Finance Minister stated they were now spending nearly Rs. 30,26,328 per month towards the payment of dearness allowance to their servants and if they were to implement the recommendations of the Pay Commission in this respect, it would amount to nearly Rs. 46,78,450 per month, thus incurring an extra expenditure of nearly Rs. 1,38,21,624 per year. In addition to this they were spending as much as Rs. 163 lakhs annually towards the payment of dearness allowance to local bodies and aided schools and if that payment also were to be brought in line with the level suggested in the Pay Commission's Report, it would involve an additional expenditure of another Rs. 90 lakhs.

"If the recommendations of the Pay Commission are adopted in this Province for paying dearness allowance to Government servants as well as to servants in the employ of the local bodies and the aided schools it would increase the expenditure by about Rs. 288 lakhs per year." The Minister hinted that there was no possibility of their being in a position to afford so much additional expenditure.

There are about 295 officers in the employ of the Madras Government who are drawing a salary ranging between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000.

Category of Government Servants

"There are 78,600 Government servants drawing a salary up to Rs. 40; 21,400 drawing a salary between Rs. 40 and 50; 25,000 between Rs. 50 and 100; 15,000 drawing a salary between Rs. 160 and 150; 6,000 drawing a salary between Rs. 150 and 200; 4,000 drawing a salary between Rs. 200 and 250; 1,000 drawing a salary between Rs. 250 and Rs. 300 and about 400 drawing a salary between Rs. 300 and 400."

The Minister said that it would not be "profitable" for the Madras Government to pay dearness allowance to its servants drawing salaries up to Rs. 400 per month at the rate recommended by the Pay Commission.

It would be "slightly advantageous" for them (Government) if the Pay Commission scale of payment of dear- [illegible] allowance was [illegible] in respect of officers [illegible] salary of more than Rs. 400. There are 350 ser- [illegible] under the employ of the Madras Government who draw a monthly salary ranging between Rs. 400 and 500 and who are now being paid dearness allowance at rates ranging between Rs. 70 and 88 and if the Pay Commission's recommendations are accepted, the dearness allowance in the case of these officers will be only Rs. 70. In the same way there are 600 officers drawing a salary between Rs. 500 and 750 who are being paid at rates ranging from Rs. 88 to Rs. 130. If the Pay Commission level is adopted, their dearness allowance will be reduced to Rs. 85 per month. Between the scales of Rs. 750 and Rs. 1,000, there are 257 Madras Government servants and the rates of dearness allowance paid to this category of officers varies from Rs. 130 to Rs. 175. The Pay Commission had recommended only Rs. 100 as dearness allowance to this category of officers.

When asked whether there was no possibility of increasing the rate of dearness allowance, if not to the level suggested in the Pay Commission's Report, at least to some extent, the Finance Minister said that dearness allowance had always been calculated on a percentage basis with reference to the salary received. And if this method of calculation was adopted, they would find the rates of dearness allowance, now paid to their officers, comparing favourably with the rates recommended by the Pay Commission.

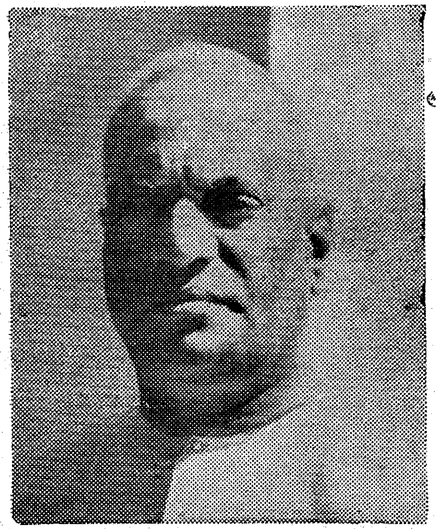
Under such circumstances the Minister said it was very unlikely that the Madras Government would implement the recommendations of Pay Commission in respect of payment of dearness allowance to its servants.

Adoption of Scales of Pay

As for adopting the scales of pay recommended by the Pay Commission, the Finance Minister said their scales of pay had always been lower than that of the Central Government in th same way as the scales of pay of t local bodies were lower than th adopted by the Provincial Gove ments. Further, the Central Gov ment were not having posts of type of Sub-Inspector, Tahsildar, which were numerous in the cas Provincial Governments. Excep for the slight similarity between [illegible] in their respective Secreta [illegible] in common the servants of the Central [illegible] vincial Governments.

Mr. V. V. Giri succeeds Mr. M. S. Aney

Government of India have appointed Mr. V. V. Giri as their Representative in Ceylon in succession to Mr. M. S. Aney.



Mr. V. V. Giri, Barrister-at-Law, M.L.A. (Madras) was till recently Minister for Labour and Industries in the Government of Madras. Mr. Giri is a well known personality in the public life of India. He has been a trade union leader for many years, was General Secretary and President of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation, and also has been twice President of the All-India Trade Union Congress. He was the Indian Workers' delegate to the International Labour Conference at Geneva in 1926. He was a member of the Central Legislative Assembly for several years till he resigned in 1936 in order to contest a seat in the Madras Legislature. He was elected and became Minister for Labour, Industries and Co-operation in the Madras Ministry during 1937–39. He was again Minister in the Madras Government in 1946 and held that office until he resigned a few weeks ago.

Firka Development to be Accelerat[illegible]

The attention of the Government has been drawn to a report published in "The Indian Express", dated 5th June 1947, stating that "the question of dropping the Firka Development Scheme introduced by the Prakasam ministry is said to be under contemplation by the Madras Government." The Government wish to state that there is absolutely no basis for this report. As the public are aware, 2 members of the Legislature have recently been deputed by the Government to tour the concerned firkas and report on the work done so far and suggest ways and means of accelerating the pace of the Firka Development scheme. In the circumstances, the question of "dropping" the scheme does not arise.

It is also not true to say the Madras Government have allotted a sum of Rs. 60,000 for the scheme. Provision has been made in the current year's budget for a sum of Rs. 4,80,000 for the staff employed in connexion with the scheme, and further, a lump sum provision of Rs. 84·22 lakhs has been made in the Budget for the execution of schemes that are to be formulated in this connexion.

Additional Secretary to be in charge

In connexion with the intensive rural reconstruction work in selected firkas, the Government have decided that the Additional Secretary to Government in the Public (Planning and Development) Department should be in charge of this work. This decision has been taken as a sequel to the abolition of the post of Development Commissioner, who [illegible] previously in charge. The Ass[illegible] Secretary to Government who [illegible] charge of rural reconstruction [illegible] will undertake journeys to the d[illegible] headquarters and firka centres se[illegible] for rural reconstruction work [illegible] discussing the co-ordinated pla[illegible] the development of the selected [illegible] formulated by the Collectors [illegible] District Officers and others co[illegible] before final orders are passed [illegible] Government. The Government [illegible] to make it known that they [illegible] great importance to these discu[illegible] and they desire that the A[illegible] Secretary should be provide[illegible] every facility by the Collect[illegible] their subordinates during his [illegible] Arising from the above arrang[illegible] Government have directed t[illegible] correspondence regarding rura[illegible] struction work in the selected fir[illegible] centres, should hereafter be a[illegible] to the Additional Secretary to [illegible] ment, Public (Planning and D[illegible] ment) Department.

M.L.A.s deputed to insp[illegible]

The Government have deput[illegible] M. Bapineedu, M.L.A. and Sri [illegible] Varadachari, M.L.A., to enqui[illegible] the present state of affairs [illegible] various firkas and centres select[illegible] intensive rural reconstruction of [illegible] and uplift work with a vie[illegible] ascertain the lines on which th[illegible] may be pursued in this regard i[illegible] firkas and centres in future.

In view of the abolition of [illegible] posts of Firka Cottage Ind[illegible] Officers, the work which used [illegible] done by these officers will be en[illegible] to the firka development [illegible] wherever necessary.

Mill Cloth Imports from Pondicherry

Several applications for permits to import sound cloth from Pondicherry (French) into this Province are being received by the Provinc[illegible] Textile Commissioner. It is h[illegible] [illegible]nced for [illegible] information of all concerned tha[illegible] [illegible] Textile Commi[illegible] for Pr[illegible]ial [illegible] th[illegible]ose, but whe[illegible] brought into this Province, it should be surrendered by the importer to the Collector of the District concerned, and should not be diverted for processing or distributed, except under [illegible] in accordance with the [illegible] of the [illegible]

2. Pending fur[illegible] [illegible] of cloth from Pondicherry should sell the cloth import[illegible] to the retailers nominated [illegible] Collector, at a price not [illegible] tha[illegible] calculated below :—

(i) In the case of [illegible] cloth :

at (a) Ex-mill price stampe[illegible] the cloth

plus (b) 10 per cent of (a)

plus (c) Sales tax on (a) and (b); and

i) in the case of processed cloth ted as such) which does bear ngs of prices—

at (a) purchase price at Pondicherry.

plus (b) the actual transport charges paid, to the importer's place in British India

plus (c) 3 per cent of (a) plus (b)

plus (d) Sales tax on (a) plus (b) plus (c).

3. The retail dealers should sell the cloth brought under paragraph 2 above to consumers—

(i) In the case of unprocessed cloth, referred to in paragraph 2 (1) above:

at (a) Ex-mill price,

plus (b) 20 per cent of (a),

plus (c) sales tax on (a) plus (b); and

(ii) In the case of processed cloth (imported as such) which does not bear markings of price, referred to in paragraph 2 (ii) above;

at (a) the retail dealer's purchase price, as under paragraph 2 (ii) above,

plus (b) 6 per cent of (a),

plus (c) sales tax on (a) plus (b).

ntensive Khadi Development Work in full swing in all Centres

o Madras Government's scheme intensive development of Khadi ven selected centres was inaugurat Erragondapalem on 21st November 946. By the end of January 1947, eme had been put into effect in other six areas also. Thus at intensive development of Khadi g vigorously pursued in the ng centres:—

Tamilnad—(1) Vellakoil, (2) hi and (3) Puliyankurichi.

Andhra Area—(4) Kotauratla, uvareddipalem, (6) Erragonda-

. *Kerala* cum *Karnataka*—(7) ur-cum Nileswar.

acilitate the collection of the pun and the distribution of cotton th, several sub-centres have been l in each centre. Altogether 38 ub-centres have been opened so t is expected that by March 1948, 11 sub-centres will be added.

ntre Khadi Committee has been uted for each centre by the nment. The Centre Khadi es have so far convened one or two ings of the Committees. In two es Village Khadi Committees have been formed. In others proposals illage Committees are either being ned or formulated.

ply of Charkas and Implements

rteen thousand cubic feet of ed timber which is sufficient for charkas have been issued by the department to be sawn into size. The sawn timber will elivered at the vari us centres. rathie Co-operative Engineershops, Limited, Madras, will n parts required for ossibilities of the manu- wheels for charkas by e agencies or in the r Industrial Workshops are ored. Arrangements are also le by the Forest department ing sawn pieces of timber required for carding bows, slivering sets and other spinning implements to the centres concerned.

Training of Khadi Workers

One of the vital parts of the Khadi Scheme is the training of Khadi workers. For giving such training the All-India Spinners' Association has opened schools in the following places at the cost of the Government:—

(a) Special Accelerated course in handspinning for three months:—

(i) Tamilnad area—Chidambaram and Peraiyur.

(ii) Andhra area—Masulipatam, Tuni, Tadpatri and Madanapalle.

(iii) Kerala *cum* Karnataka—Payyanur.

The training of the first batch of trainees in all the above schools except those at Peraiyur and Madanapalle has already been finished. The last two schools are still running and will close on 8th July 1947 and 11th July 1947 respectively. Two more schools, one at Veerapandi, near Tirupur and another Gandhinagar, Tirupur (for women only) will be opened on 2nd July 1947 and 2nd October 1947 respectively. The second session of the other training schools will also commence shortly.

(b) Khadi Pravesika Course (one year course in Khadi Craft and Science), Tirupur and Masulipatam.

Seventeen candidates are undergoing training in the Masulipatam School from 10th March 1947 while three candidates are undergoing training in the school at Tirupur from 7th February 1947.

(c) Munavi Karyakartha Course (special weaving course for one year)—Tiruppur and Masulipatam.

Arrangements for starting the school [illegible] not yet complete. Five [illegible] didates are undergoing training [illegible] the school at Masulipatam from [illegible] March 1947.

Turnover of Work

The following figures give an idea of the amount of work turned out in the seven centres up to 15th May 1947. 121,409 lb. of cotton have been purchased and 25,150 lb. distributed to the spinners. Fifty-eight thousand two hundred and fifty-two pounds of yarn (including 24,220 lb. taken over from the All-India Spinners' Association and 34,032 lb produced at the centres have been purchased and cut of this 48,353 lb. distributed among weavers. Exclusive of the 2,254 yards of cotton taken over from the All-India Spinners' Association the weavers produced 113,007 yards out of which 27,375 yards have been sold to consumers. The quantity of cloth produced out of yarn spun by self-spinners for which subsidy was paid comes to 9,287 yards. Implements worth Rs. 1,163–8–9 have been sold to the people while the value of implements held in stock is Rs. 2,988–1–3. The total receipts on all accounts in the seven centres since the inception of the scheme are Rs 1,03,412 and the total expenditure Rs. 3,48,910.

The concurrent audit of the centres and sub-centres will be taken up shortly by the Chief Auditor, State Trading Schemes.

General Remarks

Spinning is very popular among the rural classes in these seven selected areas. From the progress achieved so far it looks as if the ideal of securing at least one spinner per house may not be difficult to attain. Nevertheless it is a fact that more intense propaganda is required for the switching over of a sufficient number of looms from mill yarn weaving to the production of Khaddar. Another difficult problem is the disposal of the finished cloth. But with wholehearted co-operation from the public and [illegible] ally from the members [illegible] and [illegible] this [illegible] an insol[illegible] problem.

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